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30 PAGES

Wilmington 2014 Year in Review

By LISA KENNEDY-COX
News Correspondent
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WILMINGTON - With the rapidly approaching New Year, a review of 2014 is in order. Replete with both trials, tribulations and triumphs along with drama and dreams come true. Here are some highlights of 2014:

Winter Storm Hercules & the 'polar vortex'

Naturally, January is a great place to start, and the month indeed kicked off the New Year with a massive storm. Winter Storm Hercules barreled through the northeast heaping more than a foot of snow on the Boston area along with strong winds and the cold typical of a storm of this enormity.

Michael Woods, the Director of Public Works said Wilmington had about thirteen inches of snow. Crews spent forty-four hours cleaning it up, including shoveling fire hydrants that hadn't been cleared by residents.

About 290 tons of calcium chloride was used in the Wilmington cleanup effort, which was fairly routine and without incident, even though the wind and arctic cold had caused freezing.

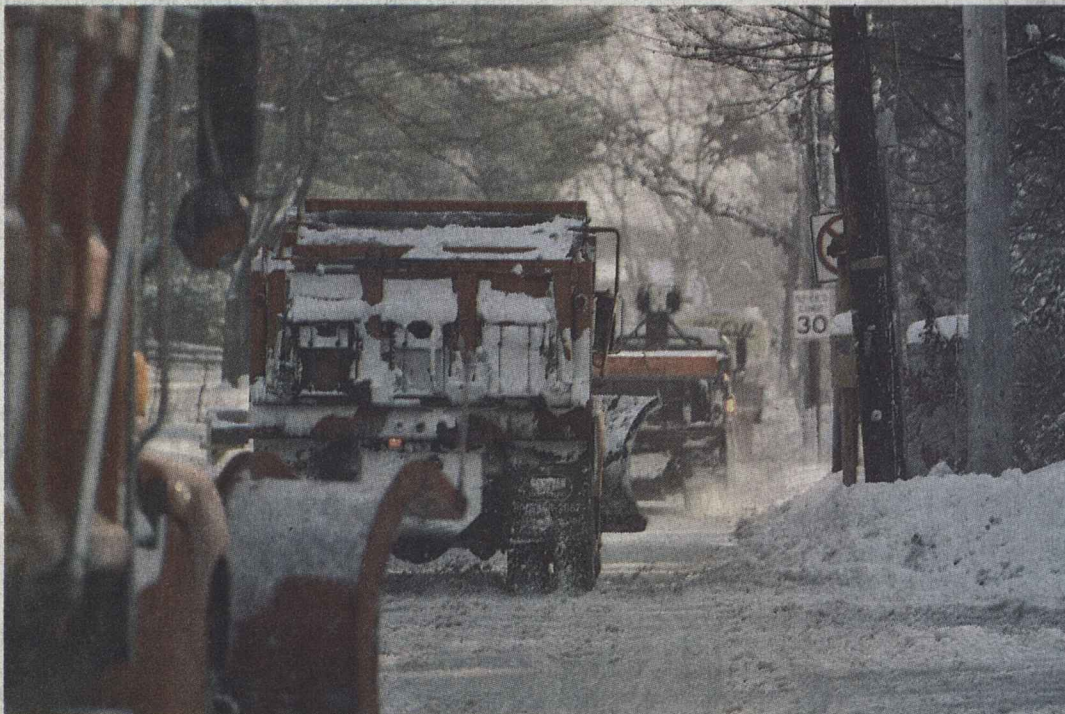
Winter 2014 popularized the term 'polar vortex', a weather phenomenon that describes a process by which frigid arctic air masses are sucked down into the center of the country bringing subzero temperatures for days at a time, raising energy rates, keeping school children indoors during recess, and contributing to binge-watching on Netflix.

Yentile Farm

The Yentile Farm project, which started in 2013, involves 20 acres of land surrounded by Cross St., Lowell St. and Main St. The project, with an initial cost estimated at \$6 million, has at this point been revised down to \$4.5 million with the focus now on 8.9 acres. The Yentile Farm Development Committee, which is led by Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Judith O'Connell and design consultant Waterfield Design Group, continues to work through concept design while trying to refine the plan to provide a cost model more attractive to the community.

Beginning in February, the public was invited to participate in multiple design workshops to help envision the future of the 20 acre parcel the town will turn into a parks and recreation facility. Consultants Waterfield Design led the interactive workshops and now Wilmington is near ready to engage contractors to begin project construction.

The preferences for facilities and concerns for development that emerged from the town-wide community survey formed the basis for design and discussion. Design elements sought opportunities for active and passive recreation, connection to the community and their impact on the site and surrounding area were explored. By October, some elements had been ruled in and rules out. Planned items include a concession stand, storage, rest rooms, and a playground and a picnic area for both passive and active recreation including bocce and horseshoes. A multi-purpose field, using artificial turf, has also garnered overwhelming support



Trucks plow Wilmington streets after the massive Winter Storm Hercules
Town Crier File Photo

from the athletic community. Items ruled out including a dog park, a skating rink, and community gardens, though officials are considering an alternate location for a dog park.

Merrimack Valley Madoff

Former personal banker and Wilmington resident Elaina Patterson was sentenced to up to five years in prison and 10 years of probation for stealing more than \$2 million from her clients that she used to fund a lavish lifestyle. Patterson pleaded guilty to 31 larceny counts in a scheme that lasted more than twelve years and targeted her own family, friends, and the elderly. During the scheme, the Patterson conducted fraudulent transactions worth approximately \$6 million and made payments back to investors and customers of nearly \$3.8 million.

Court documents say the 54-year-old Patterson stole from 31 investors and customers at the Reading bank where she worked from 1999 until 2011. The scheme went undetected as the branch shifted from a BankBoston, to a Fleet Bank, to a Bank of America. Bank of America alerted law enforcement in November 2011 after one victim questioned transactions on legal certificates of deposit on a day when Patterson was out of the office.

Prosecutors say Patterson personally benefitted greatly from the scheme. From March 2002 to June 2010 she made transfers totaling approximately \$1 million, and her monthly expenditures far exceeded her and her husband's income. She used the money to purchase luxury cars (Mercedes SUVs, Lexuses, and Cadillac Escalades), extravagant vacations (including the Ritz, the Mirage, and a penthouse suite at the Bellagio in Las Vegas), home improvements, and college and private school tuition for her children.

Election Results:

Annual Town election

Only 1,122 ballots were cast in the April annual election, but those who did vote returned all incumbents who sought reelection as well as newcomer on the political scene, Steve Bjork, the former editor of this publication and Wilmington's most recent Good Guy, to the School Committee.

Both Judy O'Connell and Mike McCoy ran uncontested would win re-election with 875 and 830 votes respectively.

School Committee incumbent Ginny Bonish, received 795 votes, and Bjork earned 880 votes.

Election - November

8,987 Wilmington voters turned out for the November mid-term election, representing 57 percent of the electorate.

Wilmington saw victory for incumbent Representative Jim Miceli over former Tewksbury Selectman Doug Sears for State Representative of the 19th Middlesex District. Senator Ed Markey narrowly defeated Brian Herr for Senator in Congress and Seth Moulton beat Richard Tisei for Representative in Congress.

Wilmington overwhelmingly voted Charlie Baker for governor over Martha Coakley, by more than 2,000 votes. State Senator and Senate Minority leader Bruce Tarr ran unopposed and captured 6,829 votes.

Wilmington voters resoundingly approved Question One, eliminating the indexed gas tax. Local voters also crushed the expanded bottle bill, voting 7,972 against the ballot

measure, and only 937 voting in favor. Like the rest of the Commonwealth, Wilmington voted to let casino gambling go forward with the defeat of Question 3. Wilmington voters also narrowly approved Question Four, to give workers sick time.

Glen Road, Route 62 Intersection

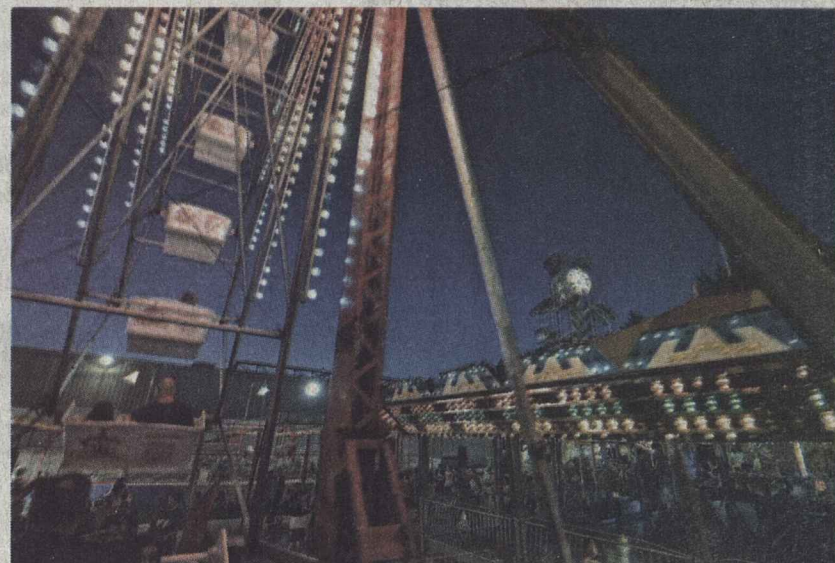
In May, Town Manager Jeffrey Hull sent a letter to the Wilmington legislative delegation in which he asked them to place the Middlesex Avenue/Glen Road and Middlesex Avenue/Wildwood Street intersection project back on the Transportation Improvement Plan (which originated in 2002) and to commit to funding the completion of the project. The existing configuration of the area is long overdue for revamping, and has presented serious challenges for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. The project is expected to cost \$1.6 million.

In October, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) announced that funding has been identified for the intersection improvement project.

"We target our transportation investments in projects like the Wilmington intersection that make a difference for those who travel through areas like this every day," said MassDOT Highway Administrator Frank DePaola. "Work associated with the project will result in a much safer and more efficient roadway that will benefit the community and motorists alike for years to come."

The proposed improvements include the installation of fully actuated traffic signals at the intersection of Route 62 and Glen Rd., and Route 62 and Wildwood St. to improve traffic safety. The improvements will also incorporate exclusive turn lanes, safe pedestrian crossings, and emergency vehicle signal prioritization.

The estimated total cost for the project is \$1.7 million and construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2015. This project is advertised for construction on MassDOT's website



The Fun on the Fourth carnival lit up the night sky at the Shriners Auditorium in July.
File Photo

at www.massdot.state.ma.us/

Transrail- Olin transfer facility

Officials and representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DEP), Olin Chemical, the Wilmington Environmental Restoration

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Shriners controversy heats up for Fourth fest

By LISA KENNEDY-COX
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WILMINGTON - As town officials begin planning for the 2015 Fun on the Fourth celebration, complaints have come forward from abutters to the Shriners Auditorium about the level of noise and disruption last year's events generated.

Chief Michael Begonis wrote and presented a letter to Town Manager Jeffrey Hull at the December 15th Board of Selectmen meeting. Scott Garrant Chairman of the Fourth of July Committee was also

present for review of the hard-won 2014 Fourth of July festivities held at the Shriners Auditorium.

The letter, dated December 12th was pursuant to Hull's request that Police, Fire, Public Works and Public Buildings Departments meet to evaluate concerns surrounding the past, current and potential future locations of Fourth of July celebrations. The conclusion to the update is that the Shriners Auditorium is the

CONTINUED PAGE 2



Wilmington's Christopher Gattineri, 3 1/2 (l), and Nicholas, 8, give Santa a hug after telling him their secret wishes for Christmas.
Photo by joebrownphotos.com

Suspect apprehended in Middle School bomb threat

Investigation By School and Police Ends With Identification of Suspect

By BRENDAN FOLEY
Town Crier Correspondent

WILMINGTON- A suspect in the December 18 Wilmington Middle School bomb threat has been identified and removed from school, officials announced on Friday. The unnamed student will remain out of school pending further disciplinary action.

The bomb threat was discovered on December 16, in one of the Middle School bathrooms. The threat was described as containing anti-government words and stated that at 1:35 p.m. on December 18, "the school goes boom."

The bathroom was immediately locked down and the police were alerted to the potential threat. Pending investigation into the matter, after school activities for Wednesday were relocated. After thorough sweeps through the school were conducted and turned up no suspicious items or objects, it was decided to continue school on Wednesday and Thursday at regular hours. Despite a reported nervousness among the students, the threatened date was completed without incident.

"Wilmington Middle School staff and the Wilmington Police Department did a great job ensuring that students felt safe and supported during the day," superintendent Mary DeLai said in an official statement. "Students reported having a good day

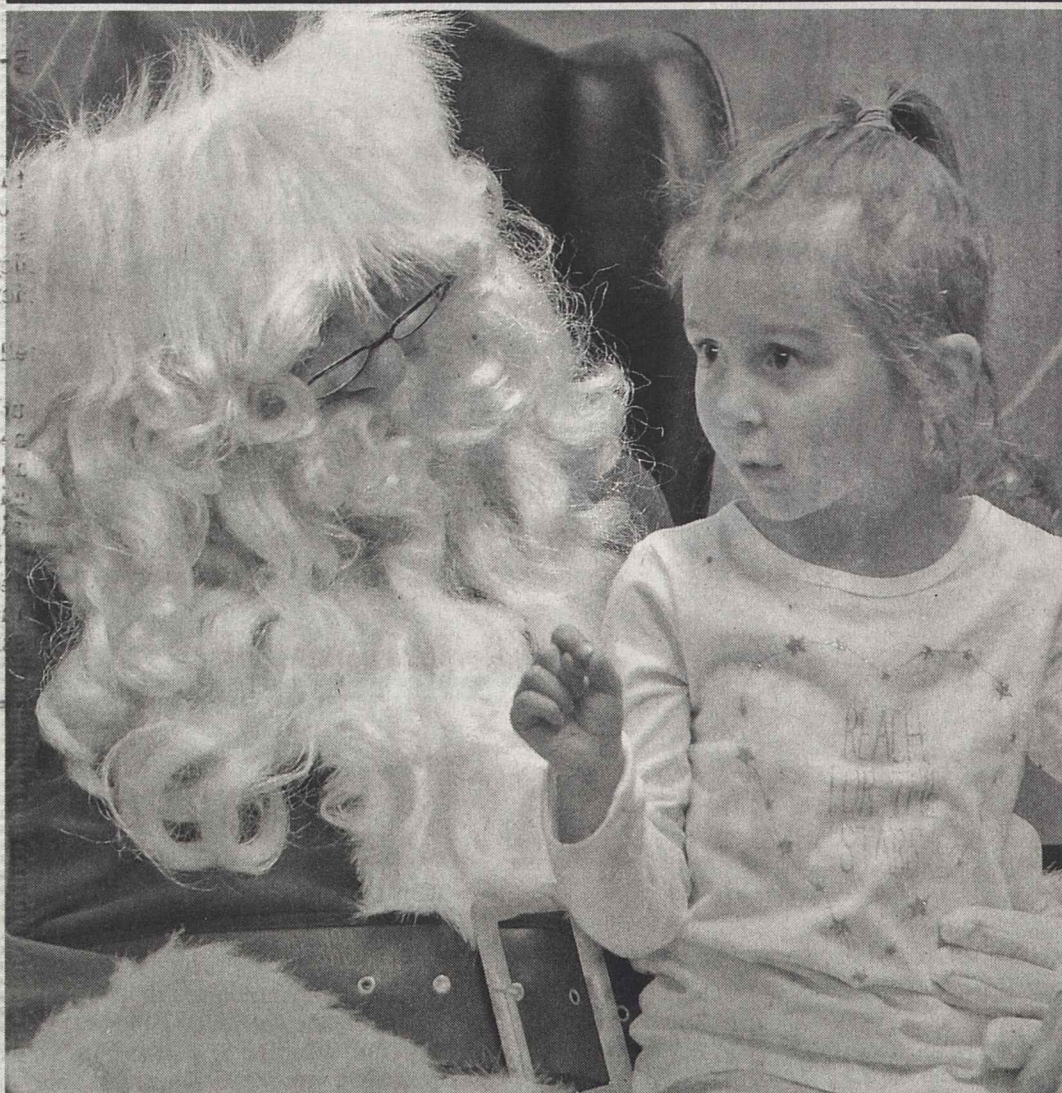
despite a bit of initial anxiety."

In the same statement DeLai personally thanked the student who came forward to report the initial threat, and all subsequent students who assisted in the investigative process. DeLai also thank the Wilmington police and fire departments for their exceptional work in securing the school from suspicious items, maintaining calm at the Middle School, and quickly identifying the suspect.

"It is clear to me that it is even more important for schools and school districts across the country to ensure that all students have strong, supportive connections with adults in schools and that we have staffing and resources in place to address behavioral health issues," DeLai said. "I believe that this student's actions were likely a cry for help."

The suspect will remain out of school pending a due process hearing. DeLai stated that, pending the outcome of the hearing, the appropriate disciplinary action will be taken as outlined in the student handbook. Any further steps beyond that point are the province of the police department.

"We need to ensure that all of our staff knows how to identify and support students who are struggling with social, emotional, or mental health challenges," DeLai said. "Proactive strategies are the key to preventing such incidents in the future."



Santa listens intently Julia Nazzaro, age 4, thinks of the things she wishes for from Santa at Wilmington Town Hall.

Photo by joebrownphotos.com

2014 Christmas Services Wilmington

By AARON HARRINGTON
SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Abundant Life Christian Center

173 Church Street, Wilmington
978-658-8584, Ablifechurch.org

December 24: Christmas Eve Service 6:30 p.m.
December 25: No services.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6:30 p.m. with a children's choir, some carols, and a brief message.

Grace Chapel-Wilmington Campus

128 West St., Wilmington
December 24: 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
December 25: No services.

St. Dorothy's Church

(The Catholic Community of Wilmington and South Tewksbury)
125 Main Street, Wilmington
December 24: 5:00 PM
December 25: 7:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Saint Thomas of Villanova Church

126 Middlesex Ave., Wilmington
December 24: 4:00 PM and 10:30 PM;
December 25: 9:00 AM

Saint Elizabeth's Episcopal Church

4 Forrest St., Wilmington
December 24: 5:00 PM Family Service
10:00 PM Traditional Service
December 25: No services.

United Methodist Church

87 Church St., Wilmington
December 24: 5:00 PM Family Service
7:00 PM Traditional Service
11:00 PM Candlelight Service
December 25: No services.

Wilmington Congregational Church

220 Middlesex Ave., Wilmington
December 24: 7:00 PM Candlelight Service
11:00 PM Candlelight Service
December 25: No services.

Shriners controversy heats up for Fourth festivities

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

only location large enough to fit all components of the celebration.

The 2014 festivities were nearly cancelled as the new High School remained under construction and the Town Common could not adequately support a carnival and fireworks. The Common was still used on the morning of the Fourth for 'Family Day' activities, but the Shriners Auditorium was the go-to place for the carnival and spectacular fireworks display.

While the 2014 Fourth festivities went on for only three days, and, for the most part, successfully, there was sufficient backlash from nearby Wilmington residents as well as some from neighboring North Reading. In addition to the noise level, parking was also a "nightmare", keeping residents who attended the festivities stuck in the parking lot for over an hour. Other problems included the onslaught of Tropical Storm Arthur and the cancelling of the Wakefield Fourth of July celebration bringing those residents to Wilmington.

Under Massachusetts state code, a 420 foot radius is required for launching a fireworks display. Begonis and his team have looked at other venues, such as Silver Lake, Yentile Farm, Textron and the Town Park, none of which offer a feasible solution as they don't meet safety zone, carnival, fireworks, and parking requirements. Traffic was also a factor in selection of a workable site.

The Committee reached out to the Shriners for 2015 and "they graciously accepted" according to Begonis, however, the bottom line is to ensure minimal impact on residents, including restaging to mitigate the noise level. "Certainly we're working to make the celebration better."

Chairman Garratt told the Board, "I appreciate the effort that Mike and Chief McClellan and the other department heads have put into this, and want to publicly thank, as we did during the ceremony, Sheila Bisset, who is the Shriners Facilities Manager, Ernie Pearlstein the General Manager, and Kevin Lewis who works for the Shriners Auditorium, who absolutely went out of his way to make everything work up there last year, and to the Shriners membership themselves. It's well known that's not where we want to be. We want to go back to the Common, but it's just not viable. The tenor of the event was different, not being on the Town Common. We will do what we can to work with the neighbors in 2015."

"I would just echo the comments about the thanks to the Shriners. The entire staff there has been incredibly accommodating," said Hull. "Residents are strongly opposed to the event being relocated there. They've raised issues about noise and safety and the fireworks themselves. We would like to relocate some of the elements of the festivities and reduce some of the impact. It's been a challenge to find an appropriate site for this event, and we

would like to ensure we keep the event continuing on in some manner."

Selectman Michael Champoux concurred with Hull and others who support the project. "This concept of the Fourth of July is a couple of days, once a year. We don't look at it frivolously. The way this town embraces these celebrations is something of a signature as to the way the people in this town kind of roll. It would be easy for us to simply say that no one can accommodate it and just make it go away."

Selectman Michael McCoy weighed in as well, "I think we're doing the best we can. The problem is, where can we put the festival?"

"We're starting all over again," he added. "We can't make everybody happy, and that's the sad thing."

Begonis, who is continuing to work with the Town of North Reading, and associated Police, Fire, DPW and Public Buildings departments told the Board, "There are a variety of concerns. No matter where we have it, there will be issues. Certainly we are working diligently toward that end, to have a successful Fourth of July celebration."

Selectmen Chair Judith O'Connell said, "Obviously all the points have been made. Certainly I know it's not an easy situation. We've reached across to our neighbor next door in North Reading and we'll certainly partner with them. We'll do this again and were going to make it even better than before."

Riding a speeding locomotive, sailing the Pacific, flying the Constellation — all on paper

By Larz F. Neilson

EDITOR EMERITIS

If a person is lucky, he or she selects — or falls into — an interesting occupation. For me, journalism has been fun, and historical feature writing even more so.

I was 23 and going nowhere when my father took me to lunch with Joe Courtney and George Speers. Courtney was Wilmington town manager in the mid-50s, and was my father's attorney and good friend. Speers was head of the Journalism Dept. at Northeastern University and general manager of the New England Press Association. They said I should go to Northeastern to study journalism.

That was 45 years ago. It was a rewarding move, and I am forever indebted to these men.

There were no battles fought here and no presidents born here, but Wilmington and Tewksbury have some great history. Our area was in the second row seats when the Revolutionary War broke out. We're halfway between Salem and Concord, and between Boston and Lowell. There have been many interesting characters and some great men in our towns, and there are

always new stories to find.

Last week, I took a 32,000-mile sailing voyage around the Pacific, from the Galapagos to New Guinea, to Bangkok, then to Japan and up to Alaska. Of course, I did all this travel without leaving my study. The expedition took place in 1929 with two young brothers from Wilmington on board.

I've ridden the Antelope, the first train through North Wilmington in 1848, a white-knuckle ride from Boston to Lawrence in 26 minutes. I've followed a railroad builder west to build the Wabash, and then part of the Transcontinental. I've watched Asa Sheldon cut down Pemberton Hill in Boston with shovels and ox-carts.

I've flown the TWA Constellation and tracked the orbit of the planet Neptune. Well, I've studied and written about the men who did these things, all of them from Wilmington.

Recently I delved into the 1963 firing of Stan Webber as Wilmington's principal assessor. Looking back on it, you realize how big it really was. He was fired for taking a day off, July 5, after the town manager had said he wanted the tax bills out by July 15. The following year, the bills didn't go out until September, but nobody was fired.

I might find a story hiding in my own basement. I recently found an article tucked into one of my father's log books. Capt. Larz had saved the article 84 years ago and but had forgotten about it. The Boston Traveler article was about a portable sawmill run by Herb Barrows and Maj. Aldice Eames.

I can't decide which was more interesting, the sawmill or my finding that long-lost article. It has given me a little more information about

Aldice Eames, who was a well-traveled writer and teacher in the 1890s. I've been gradually collecting information on him and will have that story ready soon.

Another old article, this one in a 1975 Yankee, told the story of a Minuteman from Tewksbury who was wounded at Bunker Hill, captured and held by the British and imprisoned in Nova Scotia. He escaped and was able to make his way home. But the Yankee story had no name. Tewksbury historian Dave Marcus was able to come up with a name: Jacob Frost. Then I found a book of the Frost genealogy in the Curtis Library in Brunswick, Maine. It said that Jacob had moved to Norway, Maine in 1800. A historical web site for Norway told the same story from a slightly different perspective.

Right now, I'm researching the "Wilmington Hillbillies," a musical duo of 75 years ago. I had heard of them, and just recently, I found a postcard of them on Ebay.

I am also working on the story of Ainsworth Road, off Andover Street in North Wilmington. It's an old railroad bed known as the "black tracks," and there's a bit of a scandal in the story. It's spread through several years of back issues of the Town Crier, making it a bit of a challenge to capture all the points in the story. But that's what makes it such an interesting job.

If you're reading this article and have missed some of the articles I wrote recently, you can access them on line at www.HomeNewsHere.com then search for my name: Larz Neilson.

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Advertisement It's Your Money by Todd Brisbois



WHO GETS WHAT ON JOINT ACCOUNTS?

What happens to joint accounts when one spouse dies? If the joint account is titled the most common way—that is, joint tenants with rights of survivorship—then any assets in the account should pass automatically to the surviving spouse.

A joint account is not just a bank account. Such ownership can apply to a house, investment accounts, even business interests.

If a joint account is part of your long-term estate plan, it is imperative that the assets are properly titled, and that both spouse's Social Security numbers are reflected in the title for proper tax reporting.

When there is a joint account, half of it may become taxable at the death of the first spouse. That's because the surviving spouse is inheriting half of the asset. That is the reason that some couples find it more advantageous to own certain of their assets in their own names.

What is the right choice for you? Talk it over with the tax people at:

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Tewksbury resident claims 'World Class' \$1 million prize

Second winning ticket in three months makes store "lucky"

TEWKSBURY - Last Thursday Leo Charlton of Tewksbury became the latest \$1 million winner in the Massachusetts State Lottery's award-winning "World Class Millions" instant game.

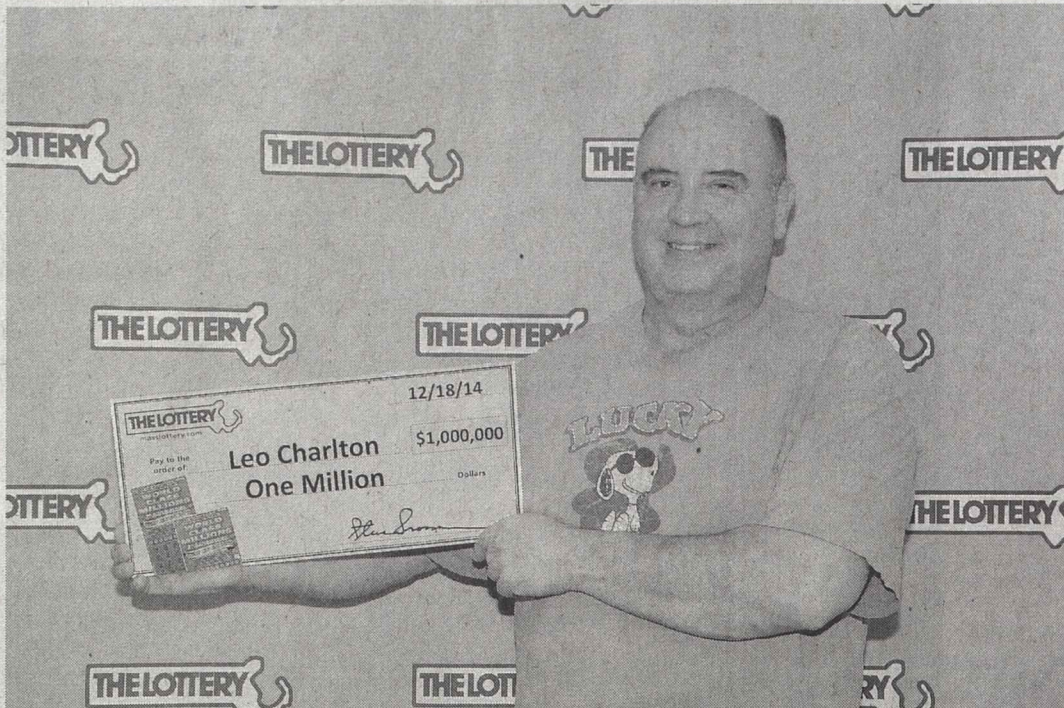
Charlton chose the cash option on his prize and received a one-time payment of \$650,000, less taxes. He plans to use his winnings to pay some bills and take care of his family.

Charlton's winning ticket was purchased at 7 Pantry, 1699 Shawsheen St. in Tewksbury. The store will receive a \$10,000 bonus for its sale.

This is the second \$1 million scratch ticket winner for the store, located on the town line between Tewksbury and Andover.

In October David Alan Druid of Reading became the second \$1 million prize-winner in the Massachusetts State Lottery's "500 Frenzy" instant game that went on sale in August.

Druid, who was joined at Lottery headquarters in Braintree by his wife,



Leo Charlton won \$1 Million in a scratch ticket sold at the 7-Pantry on Shawsheen Street. Courtesy Photo

Patricia, chose the game's cash prize option and received a one-time payment of \$650,000, less taxes. He plans on using his winnings to pay down his mortgage, buy a car, and take a vacation.

The store also received a

\$10,000 bonus on its sale.

Storeowner Emad Hennawy told the Town Crier that the two wins have made his store "lucky."

"I'm very happy, it's big support for my business," said Hennawy. "Two times in a few months... More cus-

tomers come in and are looking for more winning tickets; they think it is a lucky store. I'm very happy for my business."

A pair of local Firefighters graduate from State Firefighting Academy

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Deputy State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostrósky announced the graduation of the 221st class of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's forty-five-day Career Recruit Firefighting Training Program on December 19, 2014.

This rigorous professional training provides our newest firefighters with the basic skills to perform their jobs effectively and safely, said State Fire Marshal Coan.

The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy (MFA), a division of the Department of Fire Services, offers this program, tuition-free. The ceremony took place at the Department of Fire Services in Stow, MA.

A total of 24 Graduates from 8 Fire Departments took part in the event. The 24 graduates, all men, represent the eight fire departments of East Longmeadow, Framingham, Holden, Holyoke, Lowell, Newburyport, Peabody, and Tewksbury.

The two Tewksbury residents to complete the academy include Joel Altavesta, and Timothy Mancusi.

Framingham Fire Chief Gary T. Daugherty was the guest speaker. Chief Daugherty is a 36-year veteran of the fire service. He previously served as fire chief in Hopkinton, MA and twice as their interim town manager.

Chief Daugherty values education. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Fire Science and a Master's degree in Public Administration and is an adjunct instructor in the Fire Science Program at Anna Maria College.

Today's firefighters do far more than fight fires. They are the first ones called to respond to chemical and environmental emergencies, ranging from the suspected presence of carbon monoxide to a gas leak. They may be called to rescue a child who has fallen through the



Tewksbury residents Timothy Mancusi, left, and Joel Altavesta, right, have graduated from the Firefighters Academy. (courtesy photo).

ice or who has locked himself in a bathroom. They rescue people from stalled elevators and those who are trapped in vehicle crashes. They test and maintain their equipment including self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), hydrants, hoses, power tools, and apparatus.

At the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy they learn all these skills and more from certified fire instructors who are also experienced firefighters. Students learn all the basic skills they need to respond to fires and to contain and control them. They are also given training in public fire education, hazardous material incident mitigation, flammable liquids, stress management, confined space rescue techniques, and rappelling.

The intensive, nine-week program for municipal firefighters involves classroom instruction, physical fitness training, firefighter skills training, and live firefighting practice.

Starting with Class No. 200, the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy

changed its training format from 72 students in a 12-week program to a smaller class size of 24 students that starts every three weeks. There are still 72 students on campus at any one time, but the smaller class size is expected to achieve time efficiencies without compromising learning, and in fact improve education with smaller student/instructor ratios.

Students receive classroom training in all basic firefighter skills. They practice first under non-fire conditions and then during controlled fire conditions. To graduate, students must demonstrate proficiency in life safety, search and rescue, ladder operations, water supply, pump operation, and fire attack.

Fire attack operations range from mailbox fires to multiple-floor or multiple-room structural fires. Upon successful completion of the Recruit Program all students have met national standards of National Fire Protection Association 1001 and are certified to the level of Firefighter I and II, and

Four locals take part in UMass-Dartmouth Holiday Concert

UMass Dartmouth students took part in a Holiday Concert December 12, 2014, at the the College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) Recital Hall.

The University community was invited to the concert, which included performances by the University Chorus, Chamber Choir, Jazz Ensemble and Percussion Ensemble. Some songs performed by the groups include O' Holy Night, The Christmas Song, and Noel.

The following students took part in the Holiday Concert

presented by the University's College of Visual & Performing Arts: From Wilmington: Kelley O'Brien, Shannon O'Brien and Michele Winchell; From Tewksbury: Michelle White.

UMass Dartmouth Chancellor Grossman joined CVPA Dean Adrian Tio and Chair of the Music Department Dr. Ronald Sherwin in thanking all those who have supported UMass Dartmouth and made events like this possible.

Christmas

2014

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The Wilmington Department of Elderly Services would like to thank Son's of Italy President Kevin Cairra along with his board members for their generous donation of the new bingo board setup at the Buzzell Senior Center and for all of their continuous support.

Courtesy photo



Letters to the editor

DePasquale family thanks

To the Town of Wilmington, What an incredible town I live in.

On behalf of my entire family, I want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all the love and support you've given us this past week. Mattie would have been so overwhelmed and honored by the tributes you gave him, the support and love you gave us. I, too, am overwhelmed by the sheer number of you who came to his services, who sent us cards, who have stopped when you've seen us to tell us how sorry you are. Thank you for helping us

honor him. There is no way I can adequately express how truly thankful we all are. It's a comfort to know how many lives Mattie touched, and please know how much you have touched ours as well.

With much love and gratitude,

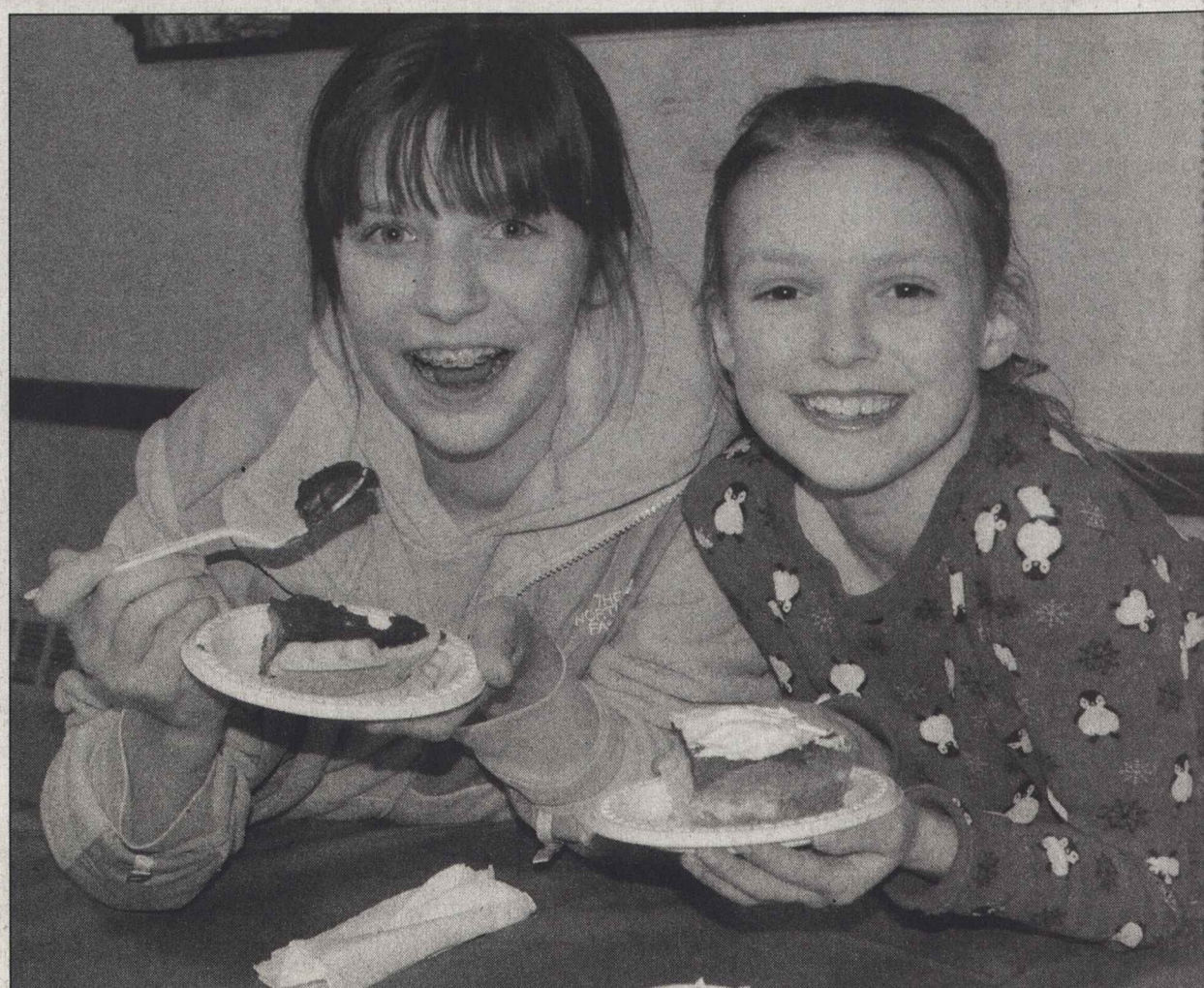
The DePasquale Family:
Jane, Melanie, Alison and Mason

Mark, Christine, and Courtney

Chuck, Denise, Sam and Lauren

Mary Jo, Kaitlyn, and Carley

Regina, Chris, Alex, Chloe, and Jordan



Noelle Gadue and Melanie Kaplan enjoyed a piece of home made pie at the Tewksbury Congregational Church on Friday evening. Photo by Maureen Brady/www.shootingstarspix.com

Consider Single-Gender Education for boys

Dear Editor,

Earlier this fall we invited prospective students to visit Malden Catholic for our Open House. More than 175 boys and their families came to 99 Crystal St. on a very snowy Sunday. As they gathered in the dining hall, I had the opportunity to welcome them and talk about the choice they were facing. Just last year, I too was applying to Malden Catholic, of course as Headmaster and not as a ninth grader, but in many ways the process is similar.

I shared with these eager families the reasons I chose MC. This included the great academics, the sense of community, and the inspiration of the Brothers. It also included an all-male student body.

I grew up in St. Louis, Missouri, where I attended an all-boys school. When I first decided to become a teacher I thought for sure I would go back to a high school like the one that I went to. It wasn't to be. For the last eleven years I have worked in co-ed schools. While I loved the experience and enjoyed working with the young ladies, one thing stood out. The boys were being left behind. In eight years at Lowell Catholic, of

the sixteen valedictorians and salutatorians only two were boys. Last year, at Saint Bernard School in Connecticut, we inducted twenty-one new members into the National Honor Society. Only three were boys. In March of this year, the Pew Research Center published the following:

In 1994, 63% of recent female high school graduates and 61% of male recent high school graduates were enrolled in college in the fall following graduation. By 2012, the share of young women enrolled in college immediately after high school had increased to 71%, but it remained unchanged for young men at 61%.

At Malden Catholic, 99% of our seniors - our boys - are accepted to college. We know that young men and young women learn differently. We also know that they learn differently if they are together or separated from each other. I urge parents to consider the benefits of single-sex education for their sons and to consider the excellent high school options available to them in the Boston area.

Sincerely,
Thomas J. Doherty III
Headmaster

Guest Columnist

Remember the Spirit of the Season

by Mrs. Claus

Visiting the little hamlet of Tewksbury earlier this month, I was so pleased to meet so many little children in the community. Waiting in line so patiently with parents, grandparents, guardians, siblings, and friends, Santa and I were very proud of all the outstanding behavior we saw, and had so much fun talking to the children.

We heard requests for all kinds of fun things for Christmas, from clothing and dolls, to dinosaurs, electronics, books, and games.

This time of year is busy throughout the North Pole, so I like to take a little time-out and enjoy the blessings of the season amidst the hub-bub.

Sometimes I try to just find a nice corner with a cup of peppermint tea to write missives to newspapers (like this one) or address Christmas cards. Other times I invite a few of the elves to join me for a sweet treat and new toy focus groups. We imagine how children will like the toys and games coming out of our workshop.

Likewise, my hope is that parents in Tewksbury and

Wilmington take time out with their children to enjoy the magic of the season. With so much pressure to create the "perfect" holiday, families (especially mothers) can become overwhelmed. The spirit of the season is love, not presents. It is not about abundant things, but abundant care.

This year, I call on parents to let it go and remember that the best things in life are not things.

This year,

- Spend less money, but spend more time with family.
- Put aside your troubles and volunteer to help someone else with theirs.
- Buy less but make (craft) more.
- Teach your children the power of giving.
- Practice gratitude for the wealth of your blessings.

No matter how you celebrate Christmas, Santa and I hope you will enjoy the preparation for the day and find the joy in the season.

With Love,
Mrs. Claus



Let's Talk About Hearing

by Lolly Wigall

Hearing loss adds stress to the Season

I have been so busy. But, this is not unusual for this time of year. I am definitely not alone. I am part of the American cul-

ture that seems to press in on celebrations and renewals this time of year. Christianity is not the only religion to have celebrations and milestones this time of year. Hanukkah and Boxing Day are celebrated in December as well. Earlier this month was World Aids Day. December 21st is the Winter Solstice, or the shortest day in the year. Personally, I love the Winter Solstice because it means the days will now start to get longer.

During this hustle and bustle that seems to exhibit December, sometimes we forget to listen to our family and friends. We forget to take that evening and have a sit-down at the dining room table for a meal. Taking time to really talk and listen instead of running to the store to buy a present for a co-worker or a friend can be rejuvenating. It is great to catch up on the latest news and share the excitement of our lives.

Many with hearing loss dread this time of year. Being in large groups when you do not hear well can be depressing and isolating. Trying to hear the grandchildren and their excitement can be a challenge. Add stress to the mix and being able to really listen and hear can be next to impossible. Then, add the music playing in

the "background" adds more difficulty to the situation. It is not a wonder that many grandparents find a comfortable chair and just plop there. "Let the kids come to me", can be the attitude. It is too hard to decipher what is being said when it is very noisy and confusing. It is just not fun. It is draining and tiring.

If you notice a relative that seems to withdraw this time of year, it might be a sign of hearing loss. If you notice that someone may seem confused or not understanding the conversation, it may be sign of a hearing loss. Encourage that relative or friend to find an audiologist and have a hearing test. Most insurances will pay for a hearing test. Sometimes we say we are depressed because it is so dark and dreary during the winter months. But, not hearing can add to those winter blues.

How to submit news items...

The Town Crier goes to press on Wednesday afternoons and has a deadline for submissions as of noon on Mondays

Preferred Submission Method:

E-Mail to jayne@yourtowncrier.com

E-Mail guidelines:

- News releases, news tips or information, letters to the editor - send either as copy in the original email or as an attached TEXT or Word document.
- Photos/images - send as an attached JPEG at a minimum of 200 resolution. Please do not embed the image within a Word document.
- All submissions **must** be accompanied by name, address, and a daytime telephone number. There are **no** exceptions.

Other submission methods:

- Deliver to the Town Crier offices at 1 Arrow Drive in Woburn, MA during business hours, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Submissions may also be mailed to - Town Crier, 1 Arrow Drive, Woburn, MA 01801

Want your opinion heard?

We LOVE your letters!

Send Letters to the Editor to:

Jayne@yourtowncrier.com.

All submissions must be accompanied by full name, address, and daytime contact information for verification purposes.

Letters must be e-mailed by noon on Monday in order for consideration the same week's edition.

Town Crier

Tewksbury - Wilmington

Office located at:

One Arrow Drive, Woburn, MA 01801

(978) 658-2346 FAX (978) 658-2266

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8 year old Lia Holowenczak shares a moment with Santa at Wilmington Town Hall.
Photo by joebrownphotos.com



Wilmington's Pack 56 participated in the Yankee Clipper's Construction Derby held on Dec. 6th in North Andover. The Cub Scouts used cardboard and duct tape to create the Twin Towers. From Left to Right are Chris Ferraro, Branden, Leonardo, Spencer, Emerick, Jonathan, Danny, and Dillon. Kneeling in front is Alex. Courtesy Photo

With a Wink and a Nod . . .

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Student Karlie Reese shared the story of Little Addy with her classmates and together they created hundreds of cards to send to Addy, a 6 year old girl from Utah battling a terminal illness. Little Addy's wish was to receive many holiday cards from friends across the country. The students at the North certainly delivered!
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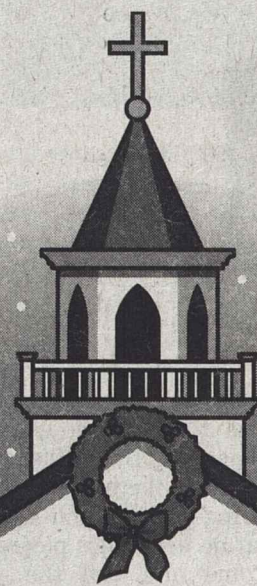
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978-658-8060

email: stephenpeterson.law@verizon.net

www.stephenpetersonlaw.com



Christmas Eve Services

December 24, 2014

5:00 p.m. -- Childrens' service

7:00 p.m. -- The joy of the season

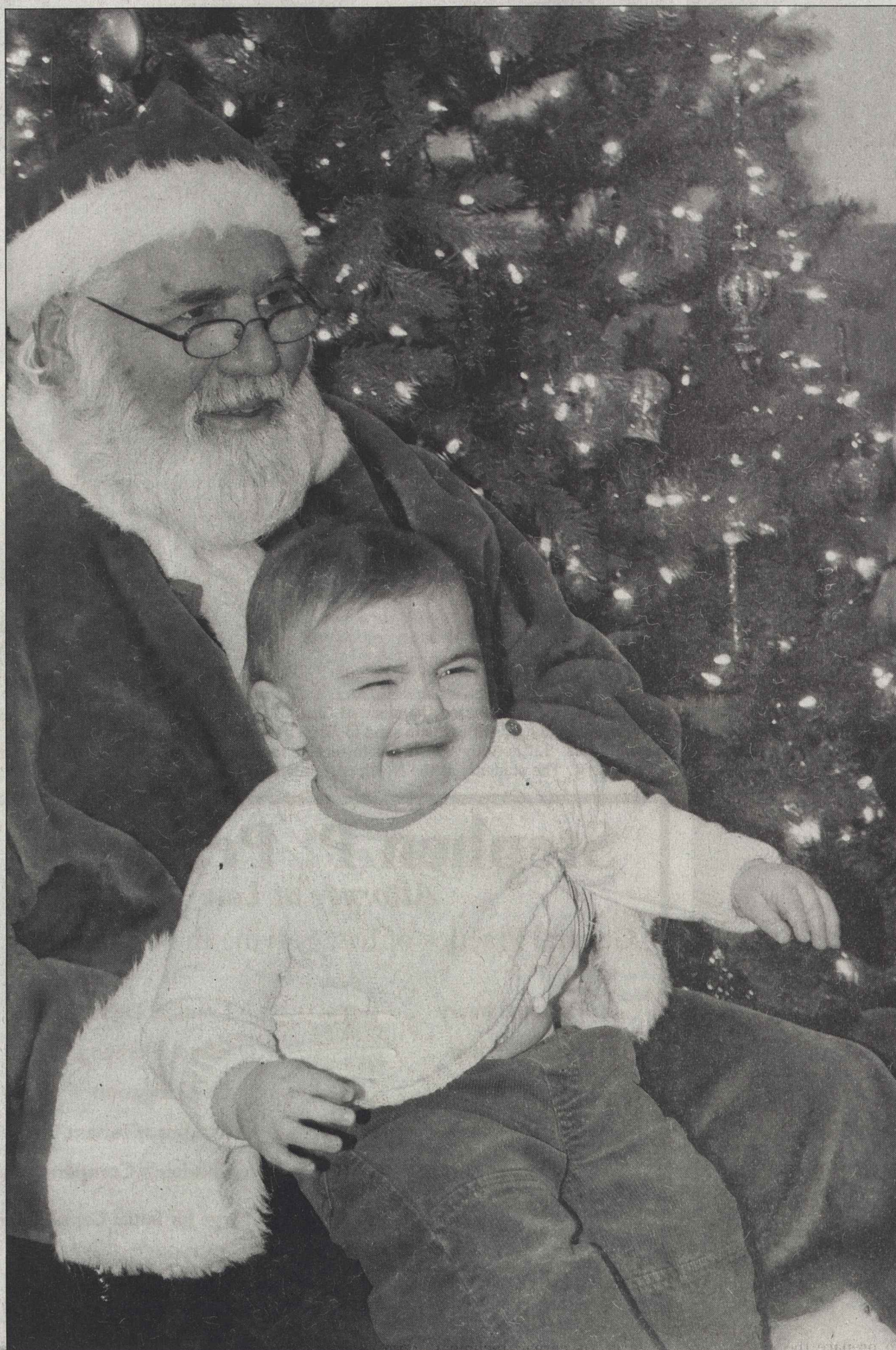
11:00 p.m. -- Lesson and Carols

Wilmington United Methodist Church

87 Church Street Wilmington, MA 01887

978-658-4519

www.wilmingtonumc.net



Jamie Doherty, age 10 months, wasn't too happy to sit with Santa at the Wilmington Son's of Italy's family party on recently.
Photo by Maureen Brady/www.shootingstarspix.com



Let's Hear it!!

Your Two Cents...



This curb at 1079 Main Street in Tewksbury Center is causing much consternation and flat tires among drivers. Business owners are telling us that customers are refusing to return to do business there due to the curb. Multiple flat tires, broken reflectors, tow trucks, and aggravation are the nasty result.

Overheard at south Tewksbury bank branch three days before Christmas - Bank employee wishes customer "Happy Holidays." Customer says, "Because my boss isn't around I'll say 'Merry Christmas.'" Seven people in line all chuckle and say, "Merry Christmas," too!

Want your opinion heard?

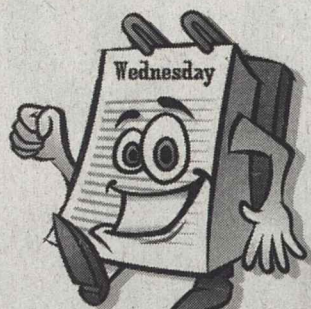
Send your Two Cents to:

twocents@YourTownCrier.com

All submissions must be accompanied by contact information for verification purposes.

Submissions exceeding 200 words will not be considered for publication.

All submissions chosen for publication will be done so anonymously.



Community Calendar

send your item to:

Calendar@YourTownCrier.com

Wilmington:

Families Anonymous Meetings

Each Thursday, 7 PM

The Families Anonymous Support Group, a confidential self-help resource for families dealing with substance abuse issues or issues caused by conflict over substance abuse are holding their meetings inside of the United Methodist Church found on Church St. There is a first-names-only rule to preserve anonymity, and no advance notice is required to attend this meeting. More information can be gained by contacting 978-973-5645.

Candlelight Christmas Celebration

December 24th; 11:00 PM
The Wilmington United Methodist Church will be hosting a Christmas Candlelight Service to celebrate this year's Christmas Eve at their parish, found on 87 Church St. next to the Wilmington High School. Come and celebrate Christmas Eve with your family in a traditional late night celebration!

Karaoke & Dancing!

Friday, Dec. 26th
8PM-Midnight
Visit the Wilmington Knights of Columbus Member's Lounge (Back Entrance) for a festive night of singing and dancing and

all in all just some good old fashioned FUN! This event is open to the public, 21+.

Bring snacks and friends (but no beverages please)! Come and end the year with a fantastic night of singing and dancing.

Christmas Tree Collection:

From January 5th to January 16th

The Town of Wilmington will be collecting Christmas trees in the usual trash pick up on each trash day. Be sure to leave your trees out and have them easily accessible to be taken away and disposed of.

Red Cross Blood Drive

January 7th; 2-7 PM

The American Red Cross will be hosting blood drives across New England, one of which will be held at the Wilmington Knights of Columbus on 112 Middlesex Ave. For more information on giving blood, be sure to visit <http://www.redcross-blood.org/> online.

School Committee Meeting

January 14th; 7 PM

The Wilmington Public Schools Committee will be holding a meeting inside of the Wilmington High School library beginning at 7 PM; those with interest in the new high school are encouraged to attend, as the com-

pletion date draws closer.

Tewksbury: Parkinson's Support Group

Every 1st and 3rd Thursday each month beginning November 6th; 9:30 AM-11:30 AM

The Tewksbury Senior Center will be hosting a new support group for those affected by Parkinson's Disease, be it someone afflicted with the disease or a loved one or caregiver. This support group, run by physical therapy doctoral students from UMASS Lowell, offers coping strategies and a place to discuss and share answers to each other's problems. The event is entirely free and open to those who wish to attend. The Senior Center is located on 175 Chandler St.

Red Cross Blood Drive

December 31st, 10 AM-3 PM

The American Red Cross will be hosting blood drives across New England, two of which will be held in Tewksbury. The first will be at the Tewksbury VFW, found on 87 Vernon St., on the 18th, and the second will be held at the Carewell Urgent Care Center, found on 345 Main St. on the 31st. For more information on giving blood, visit <http://www.redcrossblood.org/> online.

Christmas Eve Worship

December 24th; 5 PM

The Tewksbury United Methodist Church will be hosting a Christmas Eve worship service at their church building, found on 2335 Main St. The general public is invited in for an evening of Christmas carols and candles celebrating Christmas Eve.

Mind Games with the Library

December 27th; 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Children ages 4 through 12 are invited to join the library for a variety of mental activities to challenge one's thinking, such as math patterns and engineering! No registration is required for this event.

Reindeer Games at the Library

December 29th; 2:30 PM-3:30 PM

Bring your children ages 5 and up to the Tewksbury Public Library for an evening of fun holiday themed games, both individual and team based, where everyone's a winner! No registration is required, simply drop in and have fun!

Boyhood Movie Screening

January 9th; 7 PM-9 PM

The Tewksbury Public Library will be screening the newly released movie

"Boyhood" at the Library. This movie, starring Ethan Hawke and Patricia Arquette, was filmed over the course of 12 years to genuinely capture the experience of what boyhood truly involves throughout the years. Complimentary snacks and beverages are provided-be sure to sign up online for this screening on the library's website.

Job Presentation with Clare Harlow

January 12th; 2-3:30 PM

Life and career coach Clare Harlow will be aiding those bogged down with their job search for this new year at the Tewksbury Public Library in a presentation designed for setting up an Action Plan for the new year. Come and figure out what you truly want to do while also setting a plan of attack for the new year! Seating is limited, so be sure to sign up online for this event at the library's website. An opportunity for networking will be available following the presentation.

Merrimack Area: Billerica:

A Night Out with Jim Plunkett Fundraiser

Jan. 25th; 7 PM-12AM

The Shawsheen Technical High School will be hosting a fundraiser in the form of an evening with comedian Jim Plunkett at the Billerica Elks Lodge, found on 14 Webb Brook Rd. General

admission for the event is \$20 at the door; or a reserved table of 10 for \$200-the event is restricted to adults over the age of 21. Tickets are available by emailing Maureen at mwm226@comcast.net.

Burlington Lunch and Legos

January 2nd; 11:30 AM

Parents with Lego creating children at home can bring their kids to the Burlington Public Library for fun with Legos while watching a movie about Legos! Bring a blanket and some lunch for your kids for a fun morning watching, eating, and building.

Woburn: Brain Injury Family Support and Education Group Meeting

January 5th; 6:00 PM-7:30 PM

There will be a meeting of the Brain Injury Family Support Group at the New England Rehabilitation Hospital, found on 2 Rehabilitation Way for adult caregivers, family, and friends of those affected with a brain injury. Come and share coping mechanisms, as well as learn more about brain injury in this free support group alongside others who share your everyday concerns, and hopefully learn more to help you live and help your afflicted loved one.



North Intermediate students recently organized a charity drive and fundraiser for the North East Animal Shelter in Salem, Massachusetts. Fifth graders Chloe Stanford, Kendall Estabrook, Alyssa Fircia, and Amanda Broussard led students and staff in a collection of dog and cat toys, pet food, treats, blankets and cash donations. As part of their fundraising proposal to Principal Christine McMenimen, the students wrote, "This cause is something amazing. NEAS is just so creative and astonishing in their work. From internet searching for a perfect family for each cat and dog, to providing the best care to their animals. Some of the students and staff know families that have rescued/adopted dogs from NEAS." The students also researched facts about the shelter and shared, "Did you know that NEAS has placed over 115, 000 animals since it opened in 1976?" and "NEAS has 20 volunteers and 11 full-time staff." In closing, they stated, "The idea of the fundraiser is to help kids and the shelter. It will help kids by giving them a good reason to donate for a great cause, and there's fun in the process. It will help the shelter because they will get the supplies and money to keep doing what they're doing!" Any North student who donated items or funds participated in an Animal Parade (wearing their favorite animal t-shirts, prints, and carrying their favorite stuffed animals). The Animal Parade was held on December 23rd in the gymnasium.

Shawsheen Tech receives \$250K grant

Capital grant will expand welding and metal fabrication program

BILLERICA - Housing and Economic Development Secretary Greg Bialecki last week announced a \$250,000 capital grant to Shawsheen Valley Technical High School to support the purchase of equipment needed to expand their welding and metal fabrication program, meeting a critical need in advanced manufacturing and construction trades in Middlesex County.

"Training students for careers in today's competitive workforce requires providing schools with cutting-edge equipment to help them succeed," said Secretary Bialecki. "Our vocational and technical schools provide the educational training, coupled with hands-on applications, that is needed to prepare students for careers in the 21st century global economy."

With new equipment, students will learn the fundamentals of metal fabrication and joining technologies, demonstrate the use of hand and power tools, as well as demonstrate proper mechanical cutting operations, metal forming techniques, cutting and gouging processes and welding and joining processes in accordance with industry standards.

With more than 1,300 high school students, Shawsheen Tech prepares students for careers in licensed trade, technology or skilled occupations. Currently, the school offers 21 vocational career pathways that fall within the clusters of arts and communication, construction, electro/mechanical, life sciences, services and transportation.

"This grant will provide opportunities for Shawsheen Technical High School to purchase necessary equipment to ensure the students are skilled and ready to compete in the global economy," said Secretary of Education Matthew Malone. "Closing the achievement gap has been a top priority of the Patrick administration and investments like this reinforce that commitment by making sure our students are prepared for their future careers."

In addition to the opportunity to increase enrollment in the Metal Fabrication/Joining Technologies shop, the new welding and metal fabrication

equipment will allow the school to expand their adult education and workforce development programming. Shawsheen Tech operates a day program for traditional high school students, as well as the Shawsheen Technical Institute, an adult training program that partners with Wentworth Technical Institute's School of Continuing Professional Education (WTI), to prepare workers for careers in advanced manufacturing. Together, the partnership recently launched their first program, offering a WTI Basic Welding college course at Shawsheen Tech.

"Preparing Massachusetts residents for 21st century jobs has been a priority of mine since being elected office and I am thrilled to see this type of investment in technical vocational education," said Senator Ken Donnelly. "I am especially proud of Shawsheen Tech for the work they do to motivate and prepare high school students to be successful and productive members of the Commonwealth's workforce. This is grant money well spent."

This grant also supports a unique collaboration between Shawsheen and Keolis Commuter Services (KeolisCS), the MBTA commuter rail management firm, to train new workers to maintain and improve rail service throughout the region.

"We are very grateful to the Patrick Administration for supporting the expansion of our welding and metal fabrication program here at Shawsheen Tech," said Charlie Lyons, Superintendent of the Shawsheen Valley Technical High School. "This funding will provide much needed modern equipment to train

our students for careers in manufacturing and put them on the pathway to prosperity in their future endeavors."

Technical schools offer hands-on learning in a number of innovative educational programs to support a range of career fields, especially growing workforce sectors, such as advanced manufacturing, clean energy and information technology. Many regional school districts and programs also partner with area businesses and community colleges to prepare the next generation of skilled workers.

In September, the Patrick Administration announced the launch of the Industry Training Capital Equipment grant program to expand support of training programs at career technical high schools and community colleges. The capital equipment program will fund large scale grants between \$250,000 to \$1.25 million for the purchase of equipment to prepare students for careers in high demand industries such as advanced manufacturing, information technology, hospitality and mechanical and technical skills. The grant equipment program is designed to help improve the skills of students enrolling in these programs, increase the number of students who can access training and allow employers to have access to a greater pool of qualified talent.

Funding for the program is provided by the Commonwealth's Capital Plan. The Patrick Administration's five-year plan includes \$10 million in funding for a grant program to benefit Massachusetts career technical schools and community colleges.

More information about the program, including the grant guidelines and appli-

cation, are available on the program's website and applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. The Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development will issue funding recommendations within 60 days of receiving a complete application that is submitted by an eligible applicant. This new grant program complements the Administration's Vocational Opportunity Challenge (VOC) which in its first two years provided \$2 million in grants to more than 60 career technical school programs benefiting more than 3800 students. The Executive Office for Administration and Finance (EOAF) and the Executive Office of Education (EOE) anticipate a new round of funding for the VOC program will be available in the spring.

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Tewksbury
Public Schools



Announcement

for parents of students attending
Tewksbury Public Schools: Career, Vocational,
and Technical School Application Process
(For schools other than
Shawsheen Valley Technical High School)

Chapter 74 Non-Resident Tuition

Students interested in out-of-district placements under Chapter 74 Vocational Education for an upcoming school year must submit their application to Tewksbury Public Schools, Dr. John O'Connor, Superintendent, for the specific school they wish to attend by April 1st of the preceding school year. Tewksbury Public Schools reserves the right to reject any application received after that date.

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Cummings Properties

Wilmington resident Shannon Haines often finds herself close to home during the workweek. As an account manager with Cummings Properties, Shannon oversees the firm's business parks on Concord Street and Fordham Road in Wilmington, as well as buildings in Woburn.

Cummings Properties has been in the suburban Boston commercial real estate business for more than 40 years, earning a solid reputation for providing businesses with exceptional value at well-located highway properties. Along with Cummings Properties' talented in-house design and construction teams, Shannon has helped many clients identify ideal business locations and customize their facilities to suit their operations.

With nearly 10 million square feet of space including executive office, laboratory, health-care, retail, manufacturing, and warehouse, Cummings Properties can accommodate virtually any commercial real estate need.

Its clients enjoy the ease and value of full-service leases, which make monthly budgeting simpler by including facilities maintenance, property management services, landscaping, snowplowing, and more. More than 250 full-time electricians, carpenters, plumbers, and other specialists take care of the properties so clients can focus on their businesses.

Cummings buildings power charities
"While our first mission is to be a reliable partner to our clients in their facilities management, I am particularly proud that by consistently doing so, we make a significant pos-



Cummings Properties account manager Shannon Haines

itive impact in our local communities," says Shannon.

The majority of buildings managed by Cummings Properties, including those in Wilmington, are owned by and operated for the benefit of Cummings Foundation, with all rental profits benefitting charitable causes. The Foundation's "100K for 100" program awards \$10 million annually to local nonprofits. Past Wilmington recipients of these \$100,000 grants include CLASS, TOPSoccer, and the Wilmington Police Department.

Area businesses interested in leasing with Cummings Properties can reach Shannon Haines directly at 781-983-7125 or snh@cummings.com.

This member profile is provided by the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce. To have your business highlighted here contact Executive Director Nancy Vallee at 978-657-7211.

Upcoming Chamber of Commerce Events:

After hours Networking
Date: Wednesday January 28
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Place: Tremezzo's
2 Lowell Street,
Wilmington

Please contact the Chamber at 978-657-7211 for additional event details.

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Wilmington Library Notes

by Christina Stewart

Get Tech Smart in 2015

If you received a new tech gadget for Christmas (a smart phone, an e-reader, a tablet, etc) and would like to learn how to navigate the features on the device, the library can help you. Call 978-658-2967 to sign up for a free tech help session. The following classes are also offered to help get you tech smart in 2015:

iPad Basics (limit 10)

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 7 pm
Bring your iPad and get some guided hands-on experience. Such topics as connecting to a new wireless network, what different gestures do, downloading apps, and borrowing e-books will be covered.

Using Overdrive to

Children's Events

Imagine That STEM: Snowed In (RR)

Monday, Dec. 29, 10 am
Learn about different kinds of houses that keep people and animals warm in cold weather, and make your own igloo! Ages 3-5.

Tween Craft: New Year's

Garden (ages 16+, limit 12, cost \$5.00) (RR)

Tuesday, Jan. 13, 7 pm
Find your inner Zen by creating your very own desktop Japanese rock garden using natural materials. Create a calming scene to aid in quiet introspection and meditation.

Noon Year's Eve (RR)

Wed., Dec. 31, 11 am
Celebrate New Year's a little early! We'll make party hats, and noise makers, have some fun snacks and watch the ball drop as we count down until noon. Grades Kindergarten-5.

Drop-In Storytime

Friday, Jan. 2, 10 am
Drop in for stories, songs, rhymes and a fun craft! Ages: 2-5 and one or more adults.

All You Can Read Buffet (RR)

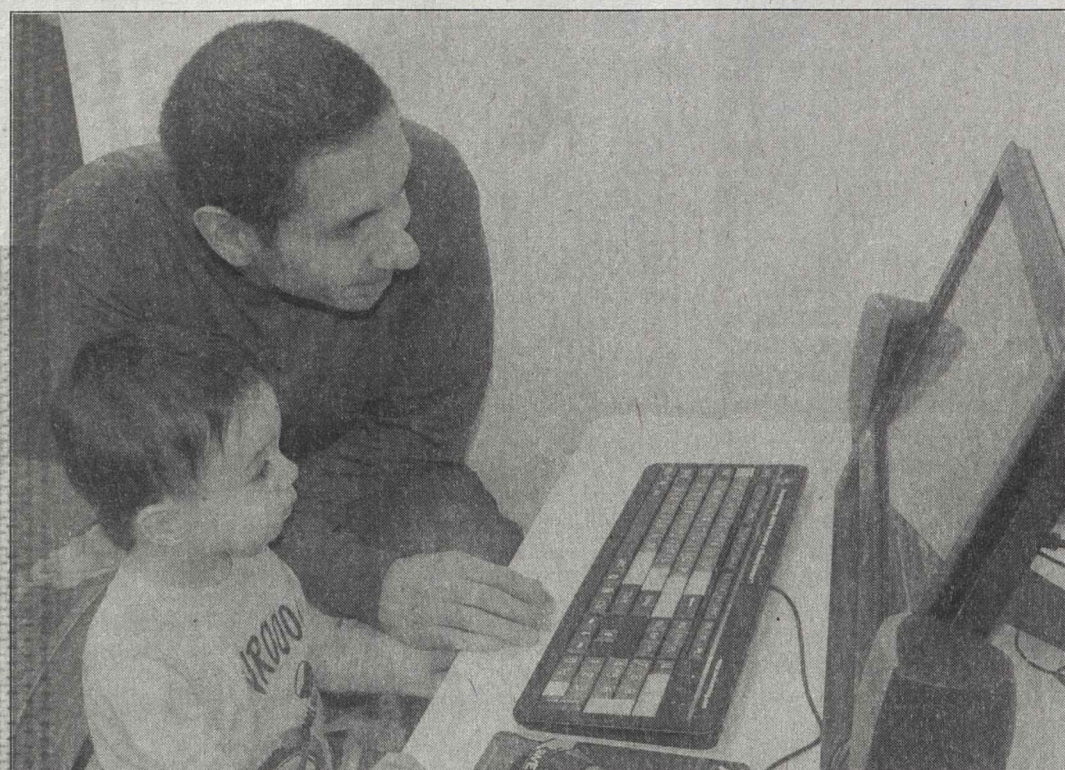
Friday, Jan. 2, 1-4:45 pm
This popular event is back! Come to this marathon read and eat-in. Bring something comfortable to lounge upon, and read away. Munch on yummy snacks and beverages all afternoon, and finish with a pizza party. Grades 3-5.

Event Registration

Registration begins 30 days prior to the event. Please register online using our Calendar of Events at www.wilmlibrary.org or by calling (978) 694-2099 (for Adult) or (978) 694-2098 (for Children/Teen). Please note we request registration for programs that are marked (RR).

Holiday Hours

Wed. Dec. 31, Library closes at 5 pm.
Thurs., Jan. 1, Library Closed
Fri., Jan. 2 and Saturday, Jan. 3, Library open 9 am to 5 pm.



Justin Cusce and his son Adam played a computer game at the Wilmington Memorial Library during a Dad's and Donuts gathering on Saturday. Dads and their kids ages 2 and up were invited to drop in for stories, songs, rhymes and more. Photo by Maureen Brady/www.shootingstarspdx.com

Microsoft PowerPoint (limit 10)

Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2:30 pm
This hands-on Microsoft PowerPoint 2010 class will cover such topics as explanation of the various tabs found on "The Ribbon", how to apply themes, and how to insert pictures and videos.

Microsoft Surface (limit 10)

Wednesday, Jan. 7, 7 pm
Come see Microsoft's answer to the iPad. It was for this type of device that Windows 8 was designed, so the basics of Windows 8 will be covered as well. If you have a Surface, bring it with you.

Download Free E-books (limit 10)

Wed., Feb., 4, 7 pm
Learn how to download e-books and audiobooks from Overdrive. Since the process is a little different on each device (Kindle vs. Nook vs. iPad), we'll help you figure out how to do this on your device.

Lynda.com

With your library card and pin number, you can access Lynda.com, the robust online training tutorial that provides over 3,000 video courses in technology, education and business led by industry experts. You can take a free class at your own pace from the comfort of your home.

Eve Confetti Crown (RR)

Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2:30 pm
Ring in 2015 with a dazzling crown made from wire and colorful confetti. Open to grades 4-8.

Dungeons & Dragons Event

Monday, Jan. 5, 3-6 pm
Join library page Hunter twice a month to play this popular fantasy role-playing game. All teens, from veteran players to complete newbies, are welcome to join.

Tuesday Night Craft with Alison: DIY Mini Zen



99 Giving Tree- The Tewksbury 99 collected 600 gifts for 14 families in need due to the generosity of their customers who chose tags from their giving tree in the lobby. Crystal Czarnionka, Tiffany Saragian, Chelsea Dietrich, Aiden Mackey and back row Andre Vezina, Heather McFadyen and Kristine Moore volunteered to help with wrapping and distribution of gifts. In addition to the giving tree project, started by Diane Mackey six years ago, one hundred books were collected during a book fair held earlier this year. Photo by Maureen Brady/www.shootingstarspdx.com

Benvenuto selected as national outstanding campus leader

Kayla Benvenuto of Tewksbury, majoring in Forensic Chemistry at Western New England University, has been selected for inclusion in the 2014-2015 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Benvenuto is one of 34 students from Western New England University who

have been selected as national outstanding campus leaders.

The University's nominating committee and editors of the annual directory have included Benvenuto based on academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

Corrected Shawsheen Tech Honor Roll

BILLERICA - Superintendent-Director Charles Lyons has announced that the following Wilmington and Tewksbury students have achieved honor roll for the first marking period at Shawsheen Valley Technical High School for the 2014-2015 school year.

Wilmington

HIGH HONORS:

Grade 9: Marissa Blonigen, Molly Gentile, Rebecca Gullotto, Thomas Strow, Jessica Turner
Grade 10: Nicholas Scalese
Grade 11: Rachel Canty, Connor O'Brien, Brendan O'Flaherty, Katelyn Stevens, Morgan Walsh, Sean Walsh

HONORS:

Grade 9: Thomas Blackwell, Todd Bonney, Jacqueline Broderick, Shane Calla, Kelli Carew, Mark Companschi, Aidan Connor, Ashley Connors, Anthony Fisette, Connor Grabowski, Alyssa Madden, Shawn Marshall, Shannon O'Grady, Sydney Pelletier, Nicholas Santos, Timothy Scalese, Josselyn Siegel, Dustin Smart, Christopher Souto, Jacob Sultan, Grace Walsh
Grade 10: Dylan Balestrieri, Griffin Blanch, Scott Burke, Ashley Diecidue, Patrick Dullea, Elizabeth Freitas, Robert Gostanian, Zachary Guarnaccia, Chancellor Harper, Duncan Lawrence, Michael LeBlanc, Johnathan Martinez, John Miller, Jonathan Murray, Katelyn Musto, Isabella Penney, Siobhan Reidy, Paige Ryan, Shana Warford, Allison Warren
Grade 11: Justin Arnold, Nicole Barry, Andrew Brown, Sean Calla, Tina Conley, Kasandra Delaney, Michelle Doucette, Steven Giroux, Amber Griffiths, Sarah King, Kaitlyn McLaren, Dakota Monteiro, Danielle Palmerino, Brianna Penney, Damian Rachdorf, MacKenzie Roberts, Zachary Rourke, Jade Sanzone, Ashleigh Spagnuolo, Adam Surette

Grade 12: Taylor Brownell, Johnathan Buletti, Mackenzie Bumpus, Michael Cleary, Elizabeth Dullea, Scott Giorlando, Casey Hayes, Courtney Jensen, Melissa King, Lauren Liscio, Abygayl Marsh, Karissa Moon, Brian Neal, Kristi Nearhos, John Reynolds, David Santini, Michael Shedd, Nicholas Trevisone, Andrew Vellucci, Rebeka Wierzbicki, Cody Wile

Tewksbury

HIGH HONORS:

Grade 9: Nicholas Catizone, Sarah Constantino, Lauren Crupi, William Eagan, Quinn Ferreira, Karissa Kakleas, Kyle Preble, Nadia Schena, Anthony Sironi, Alesha Talbot, Emily Woods
Grade 10: Cara Hartsgrove
Grade 11: Lauren Barletta, Derek DeCost, Emilie Hines, Janina Kennedy, Nicole Malfa, Marie Merlino, Brendan Michaud, Gabriella Molinar
Grade 12: Raine Ferrin, Taylor McNeil, Amanda Woods

HONORS:

Grade 9: Angel Andino, Cameron Brady, Veronika Brenner, Madison Bugley, Joseph Callahan, Benjamin Connors, Kyle Cuthin, Robert Danehy III, Kiara De Leon, Julianna DeLuca, Zackary DeSanto, Chloe Doyle, Marina Duffy, Dylan Franko, Giovanna Frisella, Victoria Fuller, Kyle Harkins, Jesse LaMarea, Michael Lambert, Emily Langone, Christopher Lucas, Anthony Lucibello, Christian MacMillan, Erin Mader, Brittany Malfa, Matthew Manoukian, Jared Mason, Evan McCarthy, Edwin Ortiz, Luke Pereira, Colin Renaud, Jeremy Rivera, Michael Sarno Jr., Hope Marie Splaine, Brendan Studley

Grade 10: Kiley Barrett, Victoria Basler, Alyssa Cappello, Cameron Carmichael, Adam Colon, Holly Covell, Faith Cullinane, Ashley Danielson, Sarah DeLuca-Gifford, Thomas DeMasi, Kelsey Kelley, Kyle Kelley, Rachel Kelly, Michelle Lombardo, Nicole Lucia, Ryan McCann, Samantha Merritt, Alexander Norton, Nicole Oliveira, Gina Puccia, Tyler Robinson, Carson Rosa, Cody Souza, Caitlyn Vaana, John Vasas, Shannon Vasas, Maren Williams, Danielle Wilson

Grade 11: Shane Arano, Khiya Baez, Ryan Barry, Justin Brangiforte, Paul Browne, Cole Bugley, Scott Callahan, Nicholas Chiccarelli, Douglas Connors, Delaney Conseriva, Angela Cunha, Steffanie DeLuca-Gifford, Matthew Ducey, Michelle Farraher, Brenna Ferreira, Katherine Gilbert, Olivia Gouveia, Cole Haley, Laura Kaizer, Nicole Kopacz, Meredith Lambert, Megan Lavino, Ryan Magnusson, David Marcos, Krystal Matsas, Ashley McCree, Daniel McCreavan, Mathew Pereira, Alexis Porzio, Kayla Porzio, Jared Roane, William Schena, Joseph Silva, Jackson Stone, William Tamboli, Katelyn Vogel, David Volpe, Steven Wink

Grade 12: Joseph Abbott, Alyssa Aurilio, Alexandra Bagrowski, Brett Battaglia, Jeremy Beauchesne, Hannah Benning, Zachary Breaux, Connor Brennan, Claire Cafarelli, Katelyn Carmichael, Richard Corrella, Santiago, Alyssa Davis, Christopher DeMattia, Marisa DePiero, Matthew DiFelice, Timothy Falanga, Steven Ferreira, Kaleigh Gammon, Cristina Gath, Christopher Groves, Kara Guttadauro, Kaile Hajar, Kerri Hegarty, Lauren Hudson, James Hutchinson, Kelly Igo, Andrew Langone, Andrew Lanza, Michael Lanza, Darien Lavino, Steven Lee, Samantha Lopolito, Joseph Marquis, Christopher Meahan, Jasmyn Mirabal, Robert Nicholas III, Joshua Nickerson, Jake Paolucci, Nicole Paquin, Rachel Roane, Nicole Salvato, Efrain Torres, Colleen Waite, Aaron Wenefeta, Mariah Wentzell, Sarah Woodworth

OBITUARY

Joseph Gatta

Welder and blacksmith

WOBURN - Mr. Joseph Gatta, age 70, died unexpectedly, Friday evening at the Lahey Hospital & Medical Center in Burlington. Born in Woburn, Joe was the son of the late Angela (Grossi) & Antonio Gatta.

Joseph was raised in Woburn and graduated from Woburn High School. Joe and his beloved late wife Maureen (Sullivan) raised their family in Reading. When Maureen died in 2002, Joseph moved back to Woburn.

Joe was a welder and blacksmith by trade. Part of a family owned business, A. Gatta Welding, J. Gatta Welding and ABR Contracting, he was extremely proud of the work he did throughout his career. He worked on many large jobs, including the State House, very early in his career. He loved being at the shop and even in retirement he would always be around the guys or working on small projects.

Joe was the devoted father

of Colleen Moulton of Tewksbury, Joseph Gatta of Reading, Craig Gatta of Wilmington, Daniel Gatta of Tewksbury, Alicia Soares of Peabody, Aaron Gatta of Reading, and John Gatta of Peabody. Also survived by 12 Loving Grandchildren. Brother of Frank Gatta of Woburn, Marianne Curtis of Wilmington, Bob Gatta of Salem, NH, John Gatta of Woburn and the late Michael Gatta. Further survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Funeral from the McLaughlin-Dello Russo Funeral Home, 60 Pleasant St. Woburn, Wednesday, December 24th at 9 AM. Followed by a funeral mass celebrated in St. Patrick Church, 71 Central St., Stoneham at 10 am. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend. Visiting hours Tuesday 4 thru 8.

Services will conclude with burial at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

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Miceli announces office hours for Tewksbury and Wilmington

Representative James Miceli will be holding office hours for the Town of Wilmington Monday, December 29th from 9:30 - 11am at the Wilmington Senior Center and also form 6:30-8:00p at the Wilmington Town Hall.

Representative James Miceli will also be holding office hours for the Town of Tewksbury Tuesday, December 30th from 9:30 - 11am at the Tewksbury Senior Center and also form 6:30-8:00p at the Tewksbury Public Library.

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Recreation

Go Out & Stay In

Indoor Activities to Keep You Busy This Winter

SHARON ADELMAN CROWLEY
Crier Correspondent
Sharon@YourTownCrier.com

The 2015 Farmer's Almanac is predicting a wintry mix in the months ahead. But why let a bit of rain and snow keep you inside? Here's a few ideas that should banish cabin fever this winter:

For Adults:

Brewery Tour

The Budweiser Brewery Tour is a great daytrip to Merrimack, New Hampshire with two different tours. The first is complimentary; you'll follow the brewing and packaging process. Choose the second (Beermaster) tour and you'll explore everything from the hop room to the finishing cellar, complete with a sample from the finishing tank. The cost is \$25 for adults over 21 and \$10 for ages 13-20. The first Saturday of each month, take pictures with the world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales. Visit the gift shop and create your own six-pack. 221 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, NH www.budweisertours.com



Trivia & Music

Show off the collective knowledge your brain holds at a number of local restaurants and community centers. Red Heat Tavern offers a fun trivia program called "Geeks Who Drink" on Tuesday nights starting at 7:30PM in Wilmington. The Skybox Restaurant and Sports Bar in Tewksbury offers "Tuesday Night Trivia Stump" weekly at 8 p.m. Musicians from top local bands take center stage throughout the month and sports enthusiasts can enjoy .25 wings Monday nights while watching their favorite teams on 30 large screen TVs. On Friday nights at the Wilmington Knights of Columbus DJ Lisa K offers a mixture of Trivia, Karaoke, and Dancing with inexpensive drinks for guests 21+ and participants may bring their own snacks. Listings are included every week the in the Town Crier Community Calendar.

Comedy

North Andover's China Blossom Restaurant & Lounge features the "Lots of Laughs Comedy Lounge." Merrimack Valley's popular comedy spot offers top rising talent plus the biggest names in comedy like Stephen Bjork, Lenny Clarke, Steve Sweeney, and Tony V. Improv Boston, Dick Doherty's Comedy Den and Beantown Comedy Clubs, and Laugh Boston also provide hundreds of hours of entertainment to help laugh off the holiday calories and keep you chuckling well into the New Year.

Pool and Billiards

Play pool on Connelly Ultimates - best-designed pool tables in the world, try the billiards room with cathedral ceilings, watch your favorite sports game in HD, throw darts or order food from their award-winning brick oven eatery. Maxamillians always has something going on, including food specials during Red Sox, Bruins, Patriots and Celtics games. <http://www.maxamillians.com/>

Live-action adventure

Battle a giant squid or save the world! 5 Wits at Patriot Place puts you at the center of a live-action adventure. Train as a spy battling an evil corporation: crack safes and dodge lasers in "Espionage" or journey beneath the sea to solve the riddle of Captain Nemo's lost ship in "20,000 Leagues." Cast members lead you through various rooms where you must solve a puzzle to advance. Go with friends for an adult's night out or bring your family. Not recommended for children under the age of seven. 202 Patriot Place, Foxboro. www.5-wits.com/foxboro

Family Fun:

STEM Museum

Located in Manchester, New Hampshire, the SEE Science Center has two floors of hands-on fun for all ages. Over 100 exhibits await you at this STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) center, including the science of ice hockey, a reptile exhibit, and a moon walk exhibit. Children under 70 pounds can feel what it's like to walk on a model of the moon. Visit the LEGO Millyard Project, the largest mini-figure LEGO installation in the world made of two million blocks. Drop in on weekends for family workshops, ideal for children ages 6-10. 200 Bedford Street, Manchester, NH. www.see-sciencecenter.org

Other local STEM adventures include the Museum of Science in Cambridge, the Maker Mill in North Andover, and even Legoland in Somerville.

Trampoline Park:

Altitude Trampoline Park in Billerica is one of the largest indoor trampoline parks in Massachusetts. Bounce off 15,000 square feet of interconnected wall-to-wall trampolines without exposed springs. For added entertainment, trampolines are combined with basketball dunking lanes, 3D dodgeball and foam pits. Altitude Billerica also offers a rock climbing wall and a battle beam suspended over foam pits. Holidays and weekends space fills up quickly, so be sure to pre-purchase tickets online first. 700 Boston Road, Billerica. www.altitudeparkma.com

Go-Karting

Looking for adrenaline and speed? Then this 30,000 square foot indoor kart racing facility is the place for you. At Checkered Flag Indoor Karting in Haverhill challenge your competitors in 15-lap races scored by an electronic timing and scoring system. Experienced drivers can race up to 30 MPH. First-time drivers, families,



and younger drivers over 54" tall can race up to 18 MPH. 239 Neck Road, Haverhill. www.checkeredflagindoorkarting.com

Roller Skating and Laser Tag

Programmed lights and sound shows fill this 25,000 square-foot venue. Rollerblade or traditional skate on a beautiful hardwood floor. There's also karaoke, a video arcade, snack bar with your favorite fun foods and laser tag! The 10-minute laser tag game has a state-of-the-art target system set to music and sound inside a labyrinth of barriers. 355 Middlesex Road, Tyngsboro. www.rollerkingdom.com. Laser Craze in Wilmington and Merrimack Valley Pavilion in Tewksbury also offer laser tag, arcade games, and snacks.

Indoor Rock Climbing

Learn to rock climb from the pros who have consulted for the film and television industry. The oldest rock gym on the east coast, the Boston Rock Gym in Woburn welcomes all ages and abilities. The routes are always changing with new challenges for every climber. Rock climbing is great for cardiovascular health and if you dream of flying, you can sign up for aerial yoga. 78 Olympia Ave, Ste. G, Woburn. www.bostonrockgym.com

BBB warns of common holiday scams

This holiday season, BBB is warning shoppers of scams that can occur while shopping online or in stores. It's easy to get caught up in holiday activities that can leave you open to potential scams. BBB advises consumers to stay alert during the holiday season to avoid falling victim to scammers poised to pounce on careless or overburdened shoppers.

These five common scams can strike at stores, online or even in your email. Follow these tips to avoid becoming a victim this holiday season.

1. Online shopping scams: Everyone loves a great deal, but some websites offer electronics or luxury goods at prices that are too good to be true. Every holiday season, BBB hears from holiday shoppers who paid for a "great deal" online, but received little or nothing in return.

BBB Tip: Always look for the BBB seal when shopping online and click on it to confirm that it's legitimate. If you're shopping on sites that aren't major retailers, check out their BBB Business Reviews at bbb.org. Confirm that the business has a physical address and telephone number. Any pages where you enter personal or financial information should be secure with "https://" at the beginning of the address or URL.

2. Online ads for hot toys and gadgets: When stores sell

out, you may find the items online at sites like Craigslist or eBay—but for a much steeper price. Some sellers will take your money and run, leaving you without the gift or money to buy it elsewhere.

BBB Tip: If you shop on Craigslist or other classified sites, look for local sellers and conduct transactions in person. Never wire money as payment. If you're shopping on auctions like eBay, research sellers extensively and don't buy if the deal sounds too good to be true.

3. Identity theft at the mall: While you're struggling with bags of presents, identity thieves may see an opportunity to steal your wallet or look over your shoulder to copy your debit or credit card numbers.

BBB Tip: Don't let yourself get bogged down in purchases or lose track of your wallet. Know where your credit and debit cards are at all times and cover the keypad when entering your pin number while purchasing items or getting money from an ATM. Make sure you put your card back in your wallet after each purchase.

4. Bogus charitable pleas: The holidays are a time of giving, and that creates an opportunity for scammers to solicit donations to line their own pockets. Beware of solicitations from charities that don't necessarily deliver on their promises or are ill-equipped to carry through on their plans.

Resist demands for on-the-spot donations.

BBB Tip: Always research charities with BBB before you donate to make sure the charity is legitimate. Up-to-date reports on thousands of local and national charities are always available for free at give.org.

5. Phishing emails: Phishing emails are a common way for hackers to get at your personal information or break into your computer. Around the holidays, beware of e-cards and messages pretending to be from businesses like UPS, FedEx or major retailers with links to package tracking information.

BBB Tip: Don't click on any links or open any attachments to emails until you have confirmed that they are not malicious. Some emails can infect your computer with a virus or download malware if you click a link. Email addresses that don't match up, typos and grammatical errors are common red flags of a malicious emails. Also beware of unsolicited emails from businesses with which you have no association. Make sure you have current antivirus software and that all security patches have been installed on the computer.

For more information you can trust, visit bbb.org/boston or like us on Facebook.



Tewksbury Police Log

3 reindeer stolen; diamond bracelet found

Monday, December 15

12:08 AM - Male 911 caller reported two males with a machete at his door at Universal Hood Cleaning. Police sent. Area was checked and no one was located. Caller spoken to, states he believes it was a dream. All cleared.

4:59 PM - A 911 caller from Charlotte Road reporting she can hear a young child crying and banging on a door possibly on Patriot Road. Police sent. Police reporting they checked the area and the child was gone on arrival.

6:05 PM - David Layton, 46, of 1280 Middlesex Street in Lowell, was arrested and charged with the warrant for trespassing.

8:06 PM - Clerk from Extended Stay America reporting a female with a child is in a state rented room smoking. Inez Elder, 21, of 1910 Andover Street in Tewksbury, was arrested and charged with the warrant for larceny under \$250.

Tuesday, December 16

3:00 AM - Kiguta Mugi, 68, of 235 18th Street in Dracut, was arrested and charged with speeding and protective custody.

8:21 PM - A 911 caller from Stadium Plaza reporting a female party asking people for a cab money as they walked into the stores. Police sent. They report they spoke to the female party and she decided to take the bus.

9:00 PM - A 911 caller from Archstone Avenue reporting her 16-year-old daughter attempted to overdose on prescription medications. Police and ambulance sent. They report one transported to Saints with medics on board.

Wednesday, December 17

4:44 AM - Call from Essex Regional reporting a call from a female who answered yes to being in danger of someone with a weapon. Second call from Duke County Sheriff department reporting the same call from the female on Rosemary Road. Third call from the female saying a male is intoxicated and causing problems at a Rosemary Road residence. Police sent. Filed a report.

6:42 PM - Male caller from 3 Crawford Drive reported they just purchased a home in town and the town-issued trash container is missing. Police sent. Filed a report.

11:29 PM - Male caller reported someone just smashed his mailbox. Police sent. Officers checked other mailboxes and found no damage; the caller was able to put the mailbox back on. No report.

Thursday, December 18

12:26 AM - Call from a male reporting his dog chased a couple people down French Street. Caller was unsure what they looked like and if they were on his property or not. Police sent and they report there is nobody in the area.

3:44 AM - Jamie Nguyen, 27, of 35 Birch Street in Derry New Hampshire, was arrested and charged with the warrant for possession class A drug.

2:10 PM - 911 call for male party that had just threatened the employees at Greater Lowell Family Practice and walked out. Police sent. Filed a report.

2:13 PM - Police to Tewksbury Memorial High School for report of a bag sitting behind the school with possible drug paraphernalia in it. Nothing suspicious found in the bag. All clear.

7:42 PM - Caller reports seeing a suspicious male party near his neighbor's house and he appears to be trying to gain entry at a Henry J Drive residence. Police sent. The male was spoken to and he lives there. The homeowner arrived while the scene confirmed that he does live at the residence.

Friday, December 19

4:43 AM - Police checked out a motor vehicle at Cracker Barrel Old Country. Police also responded. They reporting those parties checked out; the parties stating they were waiting for the restaurant to open.

11:24 PM - Female caller requested an Officer to speak with the parties at an Ames Hill Drive residence for loud noise complaint. Police sent and the parties were spoken to.

11:28 PM - Male party walked into the lobby to report he found a female's wallet in the Aubut's Liquor's parking lot. Lowell PD notified for a phone number and they stated they would send somebody by her residence.

Saturday, December 20

11:27 AM - Caller from Franklin Street reporting three reindeer were taken from his front lawn sometime overnight. Filed a report.

3:35 PM - Caller reporting a Hispanic male, long ponytail, dark blue jacket and no paper work. He is going door to door stating that he will clean your house for free. Police reporting she spoke with the manager of 440 Foster Road and told them they had to check in when going house to house. They have ceased for the day.

3:50 PM - 911 caller reported a female wearing a pink top with a male walking behind her with what appears to be a gun at her back. She had her hands in the air. Police sent. Officers were able to locate the parties after checking on them; there was no firearm found on either party.

5:02 PM - Female party walked into the lobby to report she found a diamond tennis bracelet in a Christmas tree at Christmas Tree Lot. Caller stated she asked around the lot and nobody owned the bracelet. Log entry only at this time. Bracelet was placed at the front window.

Sunday, December 21



Wilmington Police Log

Bomb threat at middle school

Monday, December 15th:

2:14 PM: A motor vehicle collision occurred at the intersection of West St. and Industrial Way involving a Subaru Legacy and Mercedes Milan. Both vehicles sustained minor damages in the collision, and neither party involved was injured in the collision.

Tuesday, December 16th:

3:51 PM: A message was found inside of a bathroom inside the Wilmington Middle School claiming a threat was to occur at the school at 1:35 PM on December 18th. No further actions occurred at the school.

Wednesday, December 17th:

No significant events to report.

Thursday, December 18th:

8:00 AM: Motor vehicle breaking and entering was reported to have occurred to an unidentified vehicle on North St.

6:08 PM: A motor vehicle collision occurred on Industrial Way involving a

1:54 AM - Caller reporting a barking dog and a suspicious black sedan parked at Ryan Designs. Police sent and they report that gone on arrival.

4:14 PM - Caller reporting she owns a French Street property and it was broken into sometime overnight. Caller states a 50 inch television set was stolen. Police sent. Filed report.

Disclaimer: The arrest records available through this publication are public information. Any indication of an arrest does not mean the individual identified has been convicted of a crime. All persons arrested are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Honda Accord and a Chevrolet Suburban. Neither operator involved was injured in the collision, and no mention of any damages to either vehicle involved was made in the report.

Friday, December 19th:

2:40 PM: A motor vehicle collision occurred at the intersection of West St. and Horseshoe Ln. involving a Ford Clubwagon and a BMW Cooper. No mention of any damages to either vehicle or the health of those involved in the collision was made in the report.

Saturday, December 20th:

No significant events to report.

Sunday, December 21st:

No significant events to report.

Disclaimer: The arrest records available through this publication are public information. Any indication of an arrest does not mean the individual identified has been convicted of a crime. All persons arrested are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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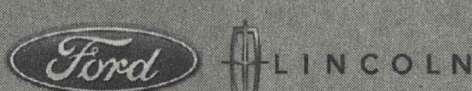
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- Tilt
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- Tilt
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- Power Windows & Locks
- Factory Warranty



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- Tilt
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- Power Window & Locks
- Alloys
- ABS



AWD
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- Factory Warranty

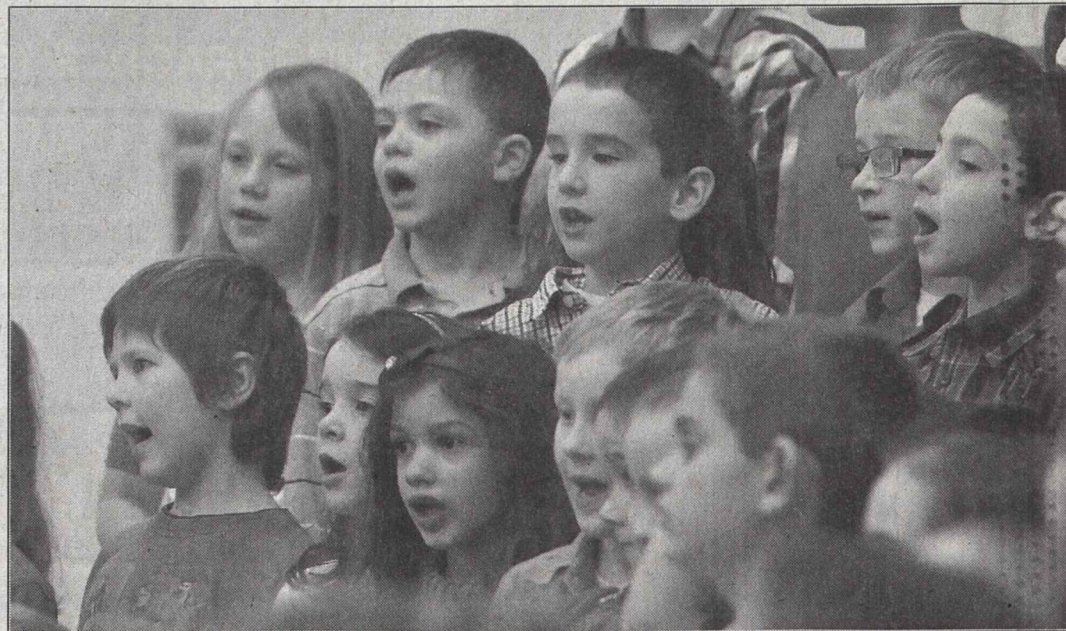


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Tewksbury Memorial High School members of the choir performed a holiday concert at the high school last Thursday evening.
Photo by Maureen Brady/www.shootingstarspix.com



Wilmington Woburn Street School 1st graders perform Holiday songs recently.
photo by joebrownphotos.com

Local Fire Departments to receive \$8,000 grants to promote fire safety

Both Tewksbury and Wilmington Fire Departments are set to receive \$8,000 grants to promote fire safety to the young and elderly through a program funded by Representative Jim Miceli, the Massachusetts Legislature, and the Office of Public Safety and Security.

The Student Awareness of Fire Education program, otherwise known as the SAFE program, plays an important part in teaching awareness and respect to children regarding fire, fire departments and personnel, and other emergency

services.

Started 25 years ago, the SAFE program has become an outstanding success and has heavily contributed to a 72 percent reduction in annual child fire-related deaths in Massachusetts.

In addition to childhood education, funds from the program are also used to help ensure the homes of senior citizens and other vulnerable populations stay up to date with fire prevention coding and detectors.

"This is a tremendously successful program" commented Representative Miceli. "Not only does it help teach children to be safe and mindful of the dangers of fire, but it also helps protect all residents by teaching disaster planning, evacuation routes in case of a fire, and other helpful tips that may one day save lives."

"I know the outstanding fire departments in each town will make great use of these funds to educate us and our children, and I will continue to support such programs."

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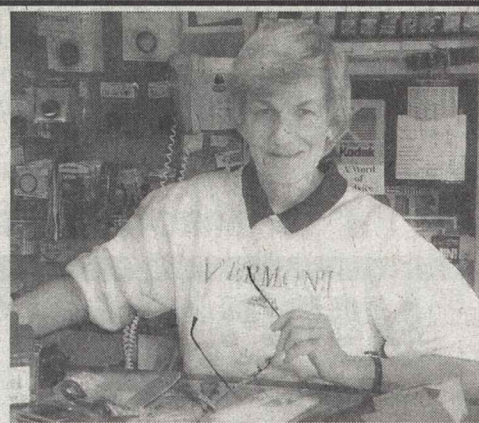
It's Christmas Shopping time!

Getting the right camera and accessories is easy when you visit Brenda at Tewksbury Camera Shop. Price is important, too. And that's where Tewksbury Camera shines.

From "Top of the Line" to "Point and Shoot" - all priced to sell!

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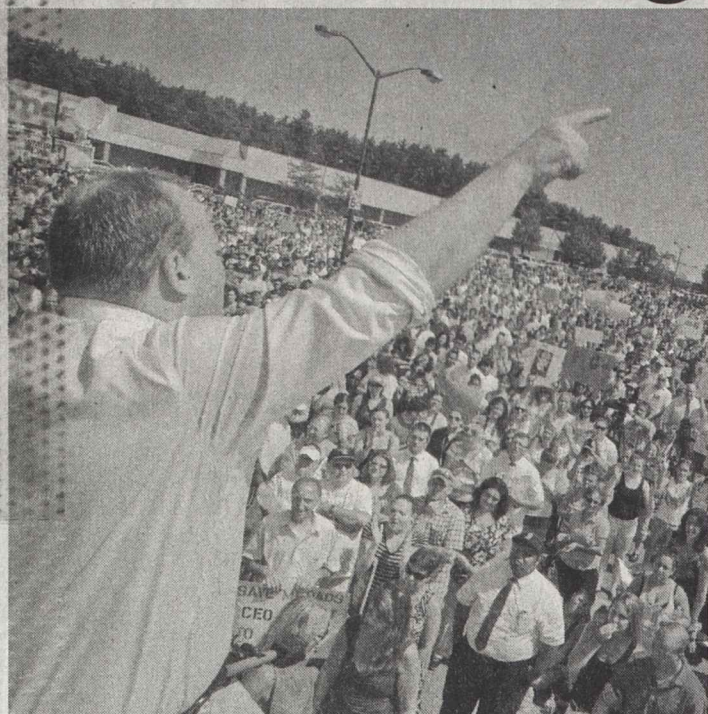
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Wilmington 2014 Year in Review



A speaker rallies employees and customers at a Market Basket rally in July.
File Photo

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Committee (WERC), and the town spoke at the Wilmington Middle School in June to offer updates on the 53-acre Olin superfund site cleanup process. With the study work completed, the meeting aimed to release info on the investigation to the public in preparation for developing clean-up options. One take-away from the meeting - a ditch on the Olin site is re-contaminated. While clean-up options and potentially responsible parties are ascertained, controversial plans for a solid waste transfer station on the property reared-up again in October.

The 'idea' came back on to the table when the EPA informed Town Manager Jeffrey Hull via memorandum that New England Transrail has requested to meet with the EPA to discuss the Olin property. New England Transrail appears to be interested in purchasing the Olin property within the next few months. The New England Transrail pro-

posal, if passed, could route thousands of tons of garbage and solid waste through Wilmington on trucks for loading onto railcars, a serious concern for an already contaminated site. Much of the waste is comprised of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). These components include organic materials such as newspapers, paper and paperboard, yard trimmings, and food waste. Other waste components include plastics, metals, and glass.

Fourth of July Controversy

In late 2013, the Fourth of July Committee, due to lack of alternative space, made a decision to cancel the 2014 Fun on the Fourth events as construction on the new Wilmington High School and the installation of a new artificial turf field precluded use of the traditional site for fireworks and the carnival.

In the spring, the Fourth of July Committee and a town manager appointed committee worked to create a Fun

on the Fourth event that could include the carnival, as the carnival generates much of the funds to purchase fireworks. Residents and non-profit community groups shared concerns that without the fireworks and carnival attracting large crowds, fundraising efforts by the groups would be significantly hampered, ultimately impacting scholarships for students and other beneficiaries of the non-profit efforts.

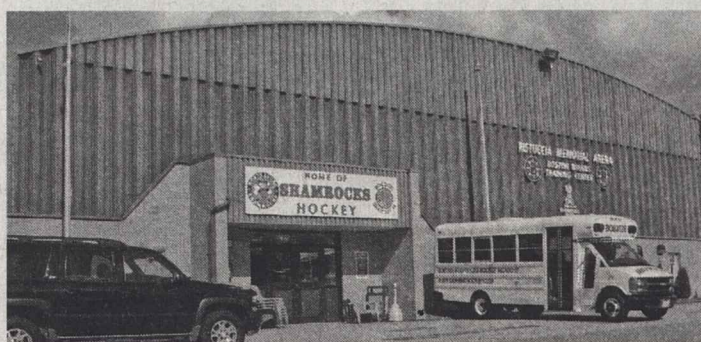
Ultimately the Town Common hosted certain "Family Day" events, breakfast, and opening ceremonies while the carnival and fireworks were moved to the edge of town at the Shriners Auditorium.

Market Basket Uprising

The employees and customers of supermarket chain Market Basket shut down a grocery empire over the summer, thwarting corporate greed, and demanding the reinstatement of ousted CEO, Arthur T. Demoulas. From top-level managers, with the exception of two replacement CEOs, down to teenage baggers the entire labor force (including truck drivers, warehouse workers, and more) united at massive rallies held locally. Customers voted with their feet as well, maintaining a three-state boycott for six weeks that brought the firm to near paralysis.

The bitter feud finally came to a close in late August when Arthur T. Demoulas reached a deal to buy the company from his cousin Arthur S. for \$1.7 billion. After weeks of negotiation, the deal was announced on August 28th at 11:15 pm.

The agreement authorized Arthur T. to manage the business and stabilize operations, as well as the ability to hire back managers fired along with him. Slowly but



Ristuccia Arena
File Photo

surely Market Basket began to rebuild as employees and vendors returned and shelves were restocked.

By December, Arthur T. Demoulas and his side of the family announced that as of 1:00 PM Friday, December 12, 2014 they had completed the purchase of the 50.5% of Demoulas Supermarkets, Inc., obtaining 100 percent ownership of the chain. Recently opened Market Basket locations in Revere, Littleton and Waltham, Massachusetts bring the total tally to 73 stores.

Ristuccia Arena Wilmington voters overwhelmingly supported a four-question initiative to put the Town at the top of the list to purchase Ristuccia Arena next spring. The controversy, bubbling for years, erupted in late July as town officials began questioning the structure and efficacy of the non-profit board associated with the arena. The arena, which was donated to the town, first had zoning changes approved by the town with the express purpose that priority for ice usage would go to Wilmington youth skating programs and high school athletes. Over the years, many residents and youth sports organizers felt the Wilmington Arena Authority, later restructured to become the Investment in Youth Foundation, abdicated its mission to the youth and residents of the town,

particularly after the arena was leased to a for-profit management organization.

A Special Town Meeting December 2nd brought residents out in droves to express their opinions and ultimately vote YES on the four articles to appropriate funds to purchase the Elinor M. Ristuccia Memorial Arena. Chairman Judith O'Connell told the Board of Selectmen that the Ristuccia family is interested in selling the rink, and that the town did due diligence in making two site visits and conducting town-related official discussions with the Town Manager.

The lease between Ristuccia and the current lessee Rotondo Enterprises remains until August 2018, however, the Board of Selectmen appropriately saw fit to bring the issue up front expediently to ensure that Wilmington will be in a position of 'first in line' for purchase, when the right of first refusal clause expires this spring.

Pipeline

A new high-pressure gas transmission pipeline to run from upstate New York to coastal Massachusetts will, if authorized by Federal authorities, pass along the town lines between Tewksbury, Andover, and Wilmington. Affected property owners received notifications in the mail in June and the plans for the pipeline proposal gradually

came to light.

The Northeast Energy Direct Gas Pipeline proposed by Tennessee Gas Pipeline (TGP, a subsidiary of energy infrastructure corporation Kinder Morgan) seeks to expand and modify an existing pipeline system in Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. Kinder Morgan is looking to replace 125 miles with new 36-inch diameter pipeline from Lenox, Massachusetts, just over the border of New York, to Dracut, Massachusetts. Part of the plan involves what is called the 'Lynnfield Lateral', which proposes a 20-inch pipeline from Dracut to Lynnfield and through northern portions of Wilmington as well as Tewksbury and adjacent communities.

Residents and town officials have raised questions around the impact of the project in terms of wetlands and wells in addition to the potential for contamination of ground water, noise pollution, surface pollution and subsequent overall risks to health should a seemingly minor or a catastrophic event occur.

The ultimate goal of the plan is to seek approval for demonstration of need for the proposed pipeline, that need being determined as a matter of 'convenience and necessity' is required for certification by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

Local leaders remain concerned with what type of impact this project will have on each town and the region overall. A new independent study due to be released this week, but delayed, aims to estimate current and future natural gas needs for New England to demonstrate whether or not there is a need to construct the pipeline.

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EX: 14-EDG26

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By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

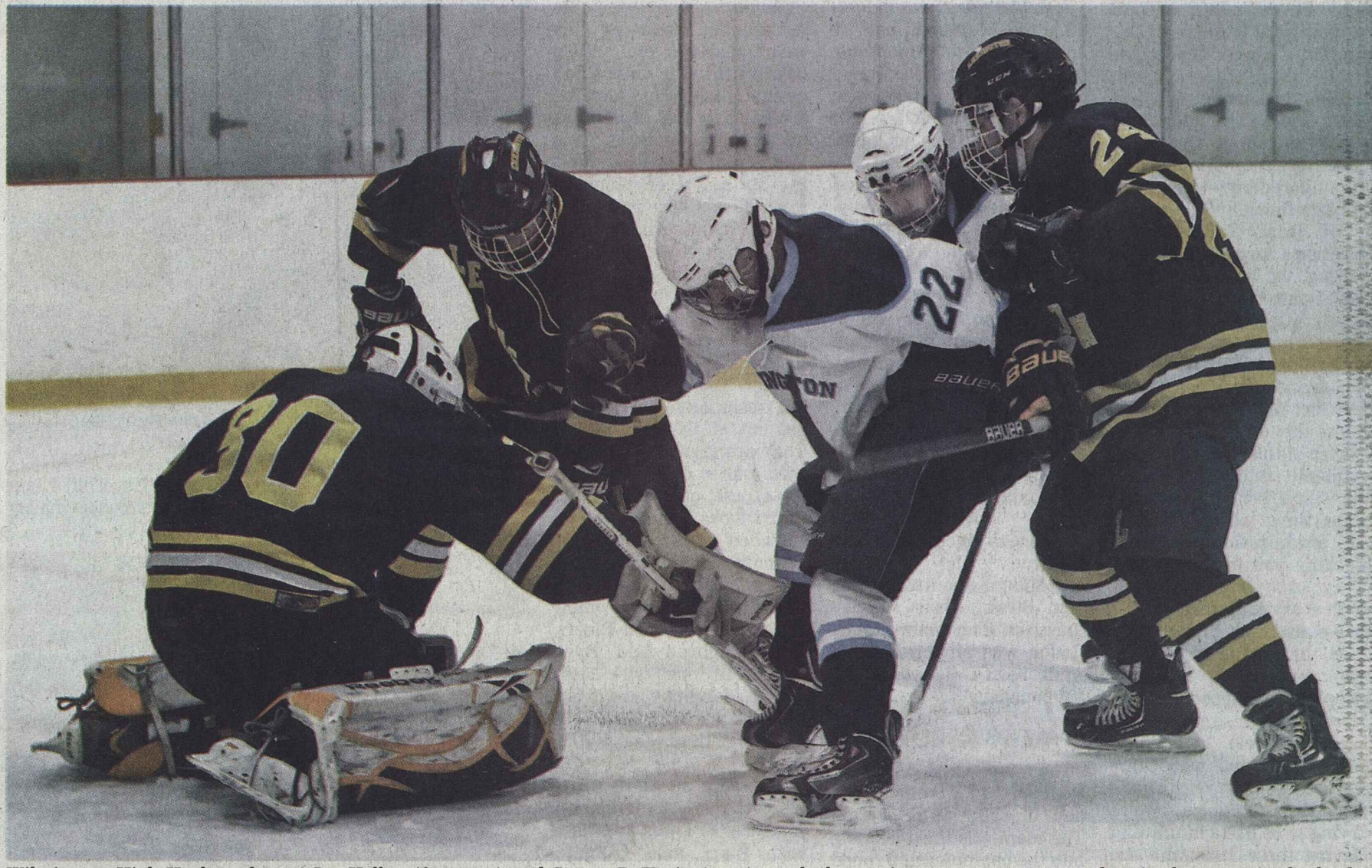
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The young and inexperienced Wilmington High School Boys Hockey team fell to 0-2 on the season with losses to Woburn (4-0) and Lexington (4-3) this past week as the new season opened.

On Saturday, the 'Cats trailed 1-0, 2-1, 3-1 and 4-2 and kept coming back scoring three goals, while also holding a 34-22 edge in shots, including 19-7 in the third, but that wasn't enough to get by the Minutemen in a very chippy game.

"Our intensity level was ebbs and flows," said WHS Coach Steve Scanlon. "When we play hard, we do OK and there was a lot of fight in the end so I was glad to see that. That's a good sign. But the thing is when we made errors, we make critical errors that hurt us. It's hard to chase the game. You are behind the eight-ball the entire game and it just takes a toll on you. We had our chances, we really did."

"We had plenty of power play chances that we didn't take advantage of. We out shot them 34-22 and we had 19-7 in the third period. We peppered the kid and he's a



Wilmington High Hockey players Joe Kelley (front, 22) and Steven DeFuria (rear) crash the net in an attempt to score late in the game in the hockey team's 4-3 loss to Lexington on Saturday afternoon at the Ristuccia Arena. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

good goalie, but Rome wasn't built in a day. We have to make some changes as some kids are just not producing."

Lexington took a 1-0 lead scoring with 8:40 to go in the first period before the 'Cats tied it up as captain Steve DeFuria scored his first of two goals on the day, on a fluke play off a face-off.

Lexington went up 2-1 after the second period, before scoring a power play goal 22 seconds into the third period to go up by two goals. Wilmington squandered a chance on a power play but then finally converted on the man-up with 11:03 to go as

Brian Cavanaugh made a nice pass out front to DeFuria, who put the puck top shelf over the glove hand of goalie Scott Douglass making it 3-2.

Lexington went back up by two scoring on a fluke goal - a weird bounce gave Justin Arnold basically an open net and he scored, and then climbed the glass as if he was Spiderman, something that should have planted him in the penalty box.

Lexington was called for a double-minor penalty with 5:13 to go and Wilmington put seven shots on net during the three minute man

advantage but couldn't get one past Douglass.

With under two minutes to go in the game, Glenn Sullivan made a nice pad save denying Nico Frelick intight on a nice cross pass to the back side of the net.

A minute later, Sully was pulled for the extra skater and Joe Castellano scored cutting the game down to one goal. Defenseman Joe Kelley took a slap shot from the point and it sailed wide and Castellano was able to get a stick on the deflection and bank it off the sprawling Douglass and into the net.

Again Wilmington pulled

Sullivan with 45 seconds left, and had a great bid as defenseman Mike

Marcinkowski's slap shot from the right point was stopped, and the rebound went out to DeFuria and again Douglass came up with the save.

The 4-3 loss to Lexington was much better than the team's season opener against Woburn.

"Against Woburn, we didn't play well at all," said Scanlon. "Woburn really brought it and we were not prepared at all especially with our intensity level. It was a lot of deer in the head-

lights stuff. You expect that from the new kids but not from the veterans, and you saw the same thing here (on Saturday).

"And same thing, penalties hurt us early and we got behind. Then we made a big mistake in the third leading to another goal and that was it. I think we were outshot 31-12 so we didn't do much at all. It was a typical Woburn team - they work really hard, they play hard and if you don't match the physical stuff and you don't skate, you're going to be in trouble against them."

Boys pick up first win of season

By GREG BIDGOOD
TIMES CHRONICLE

READING — The Reading Boys Basketball team made it interesting but ultimately could not erase a fourth-quarter double digit deficit as Wilmington escaped Hawkes Field house with a 56-54 win on Monday night.

Wilmington evened its record at 1-1 while Reading fell to 0-2 making this afternoon's game against 0-2 Wakefield an important contest for both teams.

Trailing 49-39 at the start of the fourth the Rockets put on a full-court press and Wilmington struggled to adapt. That tough defense allowed Reading to cut the lead to two and gave the Rockets a shot to win it but Jared Thorpe-Johnson was just long with a 3-point attempt with under 10 seconds remaining in the game as Reading came up just short in its home opener.

"If we defended like we did in the fourth quarter," said Reading coach Paul Morrissey. "We'd have been better off. What it really came down to though was we missed too many free throws (10). We found a way to get to the line but couldn't hit them. That really hurt in two ways because not only did we give away points but you can only press after a make so by missing them we really couldn't set our defense."

Added WHS Head Coach Joe Maiella, "We controlled the game and were up by 10 or 12 points early, and then five at halftime. We got back up by ten after the third, and then they really started to

press us and it was down to the wire the rest of the way. They had the ball with 12 seconds left and missed a three-pointer at the buzzer.

"(Connor) Bennett was fantastic. It was his best game of his career. We got the ball to him all night. And Zach Abbott hit a few big shots when we needed them. We need that second scorer and he came through."

Reading went to the line 25 times but made just 60 percent of the shots which is something that comes back to kill you in a close game.

In addition to its troubles at the line Reading didn't have to size to matchup with Wilmington's 6-9 senior center Connor Bennett who finished with a game-high 22 points to go along with 15 rebounds and 6 blocks.

The Wildcats also got a strong game from forward Abbott who had 11 points and got Wilmington's offense on track allowing it to open up a lead in the second after an evenly played first quarter. Abbott drained a 3-pointer and then picked off an errant Reading pass and raced in for a break-away lay-up to make it 30-18 midway through the second.

Sophomore forward Corey DiLoreto answered for Reading as, despite giving up over half a foot to Bennett, he managed to block one of his shots that led to a Mike Algeri fast-break lay-up. That lay-up seemed to get the Reading captain going as shortly after he connected on his second of three 3-pointers that he hit in the game that made it 32-25. Thorpe-

Johnson (nine points) then hit a jumper of his own to cap the first-half scoring as Wilmington held a 32-27 lead at the break.

Momentum would not carry over for the Rockets as Wilmington slowed down the game in the third by dumping the ball inside to Bennett. He scored ten points in the third alone as the Wildcats built their lead back up to 49-39 at the end of the quarter.

Reading spent the entire fourth quarter in the bonus and gradually chipped away at the Wilmington lead. Algeri, who was the lone Rocket that didn't struggle at the line hitting 8-of-10 foul shots, connected on a pair to cap a 12-4 run and make it 53-51 which was the closest the game had been since early in the second quarter.

Bennett answered with a huge turnaround baby hook and then a Wildcat free throw made it 56-51 before a heady play by Algeri, in which he drew a charge after winding up defending a Wilmington forward in the low post, returned possession to the Rockets with 48 seconds to play in the contest.

The 5-10 shooting guard then drained a huge corner three on the other end of the floor, giving him 21 points in the game to go along with five assists and six rebounds, which made it a two point game with 34 seconds remaining.

Reading elected not to foul and Chris Merullo (14 points) came up with a steal that gave Reading a shot with 12.7 left.



Wilmington High senior center Connor Bennett tries to defend the shot taken by Reading's Nathan Walker during Monday night's win for the Wildcats held at RMHS. (photo by Bill Ryerson).

Wilmington defended the final inbounds play well denying Reading shooters the ball, Thorpe-Johnson almost made the Wildcats pay for that strategy but his

shot from the left wing just missed as Wilmington picked up its first win of the year.

Jamie Pote contributed to

this report. Additional coverage of the WHS Boys Basketball team inside this section.

29th annual SOI Tournament

All three local wrestling teams fare well

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

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Three local teams fared very well in the 29th annual Sons of Italy Wrestling tournament held at the Shriner's Auditorium over nine hours on Saturday.

Shawsheen Tech had the best finish taking second overall as a team including crowning three champions while three others placed, while Tewksbury finished fifth and Wilmington was ninth as teams. Overall it was a great day in an event run incredibly well from start to finish.

"We want to thank the Shriner's organization for letting us hold the event here once again and the Sgns of Italy for 29 years of sponsoring this tournament," said WHS Wrestling coach and tournament director Joel McKenna. "For 29 years they have been a supporter of this wrestling tournament, and Wilmington Wrestling so that's just a huge thing when you have an organization like that backing you up financially. They are just tremendous with everything they do."

"We also want to thank the kids, the volunteers, the parents and there's so many people who chipped in so we have to thank so many people collectively. There were a lot of alumni who came back to help us out. That's what it's all about. We're trying to be like a family and having these kids, who are such great role models, come back and help the kids who are going through the program right now."

A total of 14 teams competed in the tournament with Winchester taking the title.

SHAWSHEEN TECH

The Rams were led by four wrestlers who advanced to the championship finals. At 106 pounds Jake Ferri won by a forfeit as he finished 3-0 on the day. At 113 pounds, Tyler Tedford finished second

and as he lost in the final to Kevin Zucher of Winchester but finished 2-1. At 126 pounds, Bryce Spinosa had a terrific battle with reigning Vermont State Champion Daniel Bliss, and Spinosa came away with an exciting 8-6 win to also finish 3-0 in the tourney.

Josh Merrifield was defeated in the 152-pound finals by Jordan Darby of Winchester to finish 2-1, and Joe Fusco came on with a first place title in the 220-pound weight class beating Skylar Falite of Danvers, to finish 3-0.

"It was a great day," said Rams coach Mark Donovan. "We finished in second place to Winchester. We have a couple of starters out, but Winchester is a stacked team. (Almost) every kid on our team won a match so it was a real good team performance for us. It was a good win for Fusco, and Spinosa as well as he beat a returning Vermont State Champion. I'm very happy with today."

Also competing for Shawsheen included: Cody Sughrue and Charles MacMillan, who finished 3-2; Tom Strow, Chris Arkalis, Christian Hoar and Anthony Godin, who all finished 1-2, while Sean Daly was 0-2 at 138 pounds.

TEWKSBURY

The up and coming Redmen had a very strong day finishing fifth overall. The team was third heading into the championship round but taking fifth was very impressive for such a young team. Broc Dokus finished second, while Joe Martel was third and Ryan Wackrow and Blake Hiltz were fourth. Dokus lost to his friend Luc Chretien of Haverhill, 5-4, in a great battle for the 195-pound division.

"It was a tough match," said Tewksbury coach Steve O'Keefe. "He lost to that kid last year in a dual meet. Hopefully Broc gets another

shot at him. We wrestle Haverhill later on in the season so hopefully Broc will beat him then."

Martel finished 4-1 on the day and beat Alex Popielski of Masconomet in the consolation finals, while Hiltz finished 4-2 and Wackrow 2-2 on the day.

"Wackrow hasn't been able to practice with us this year," said O'Keefe. "He's been with the team but had an injury which has kept his sidelined so this really was his first live matches. This was a real good first showing for him even though I think he is a little rusty. But he can improve immensely. Martel has improved for us steadily over the years. He is a captain and he is really come about with his work ethic. You can see that he is focused."

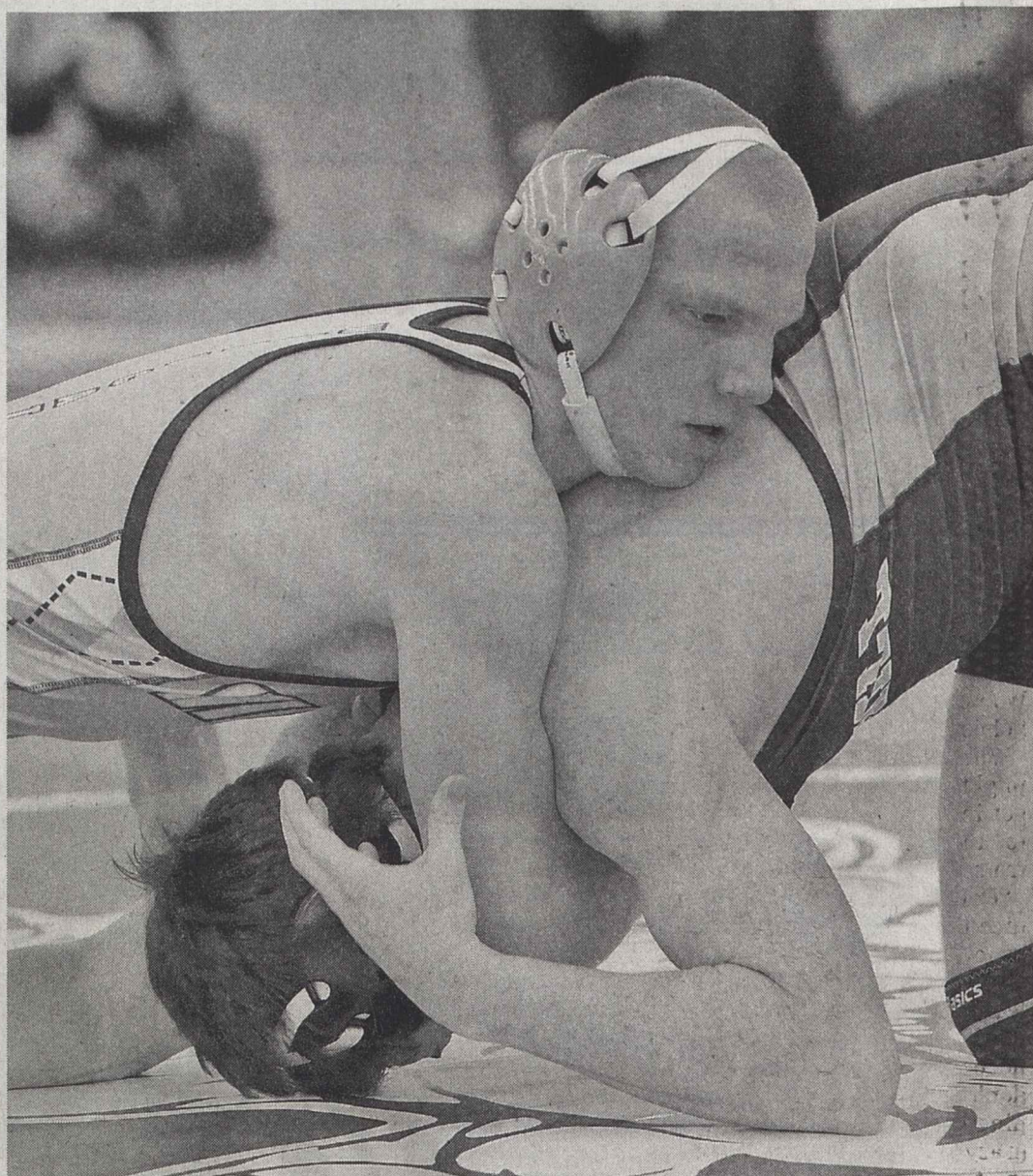
"Then the Hiltz Brothers are freshmen so anything we get out of them is a plus. They are great kids to work with and to coach, just like all of the other kids. The future looks bright."

Braden Hiltz, Brendan O'Connor, Ryan Carey and Jimmy Doran all finished up at 2-2 on the day, while, Dylan McAteer, Tim Rivers, Ryan Sughrue and Ryan Bain had one win each. Jacob Marchant and Mike McInnis also competed hard but lost both of their matches.

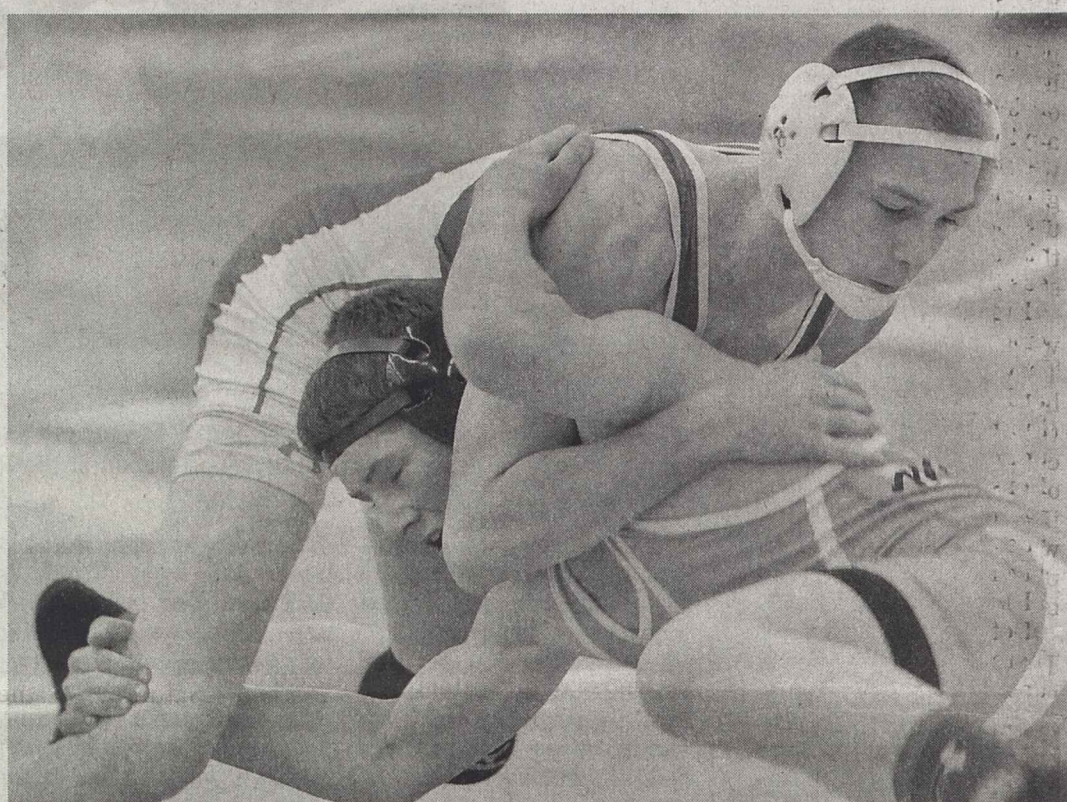
"We were in third place before the championship matches, so I was surprised with that," said O'Keefe. "Almost everyone won at least one match here. We're a young team but we're hard working and we're a very attentive team so I'm hoping that we can keep building from this."

WILMINGTON

The Wildcats had three place finishers including Louie Larffarello, who was second at 285 and Andy Lesperance (170) and Fox Maxwell (126) who both finished in third place.



Above, Wilmington's Sam Jennings battles Haverhill's Jake Prescott and below, Tewksbury's Braden Hiltz wrestles Mt. Mansfield's Daniel Biss during Saturday's annual Sons of Italy Wrestling tournament. (photos by JoeBrownphotos.com).



Larffarello was pinned by Dalton Hallock of Mount

Mansfield, Vermont, in the championship match.

"This is the first time Louie has placed in this tournament," said McKenna. "He lost to a kid who took second in the state in Vermont last year and the kid is a great wrestler. Louie had a good day and it wasn't the day he wanted but he has been wrestling competitively for us this season after missing the early goings with an injury. It was a decent day for him and we were happy with where he got, going to the finals and that's what he expects out of himself."

Maxwell finished 3-1 on the day losing in the championship semi-finals to Spinosa, the eventual tournament champion.

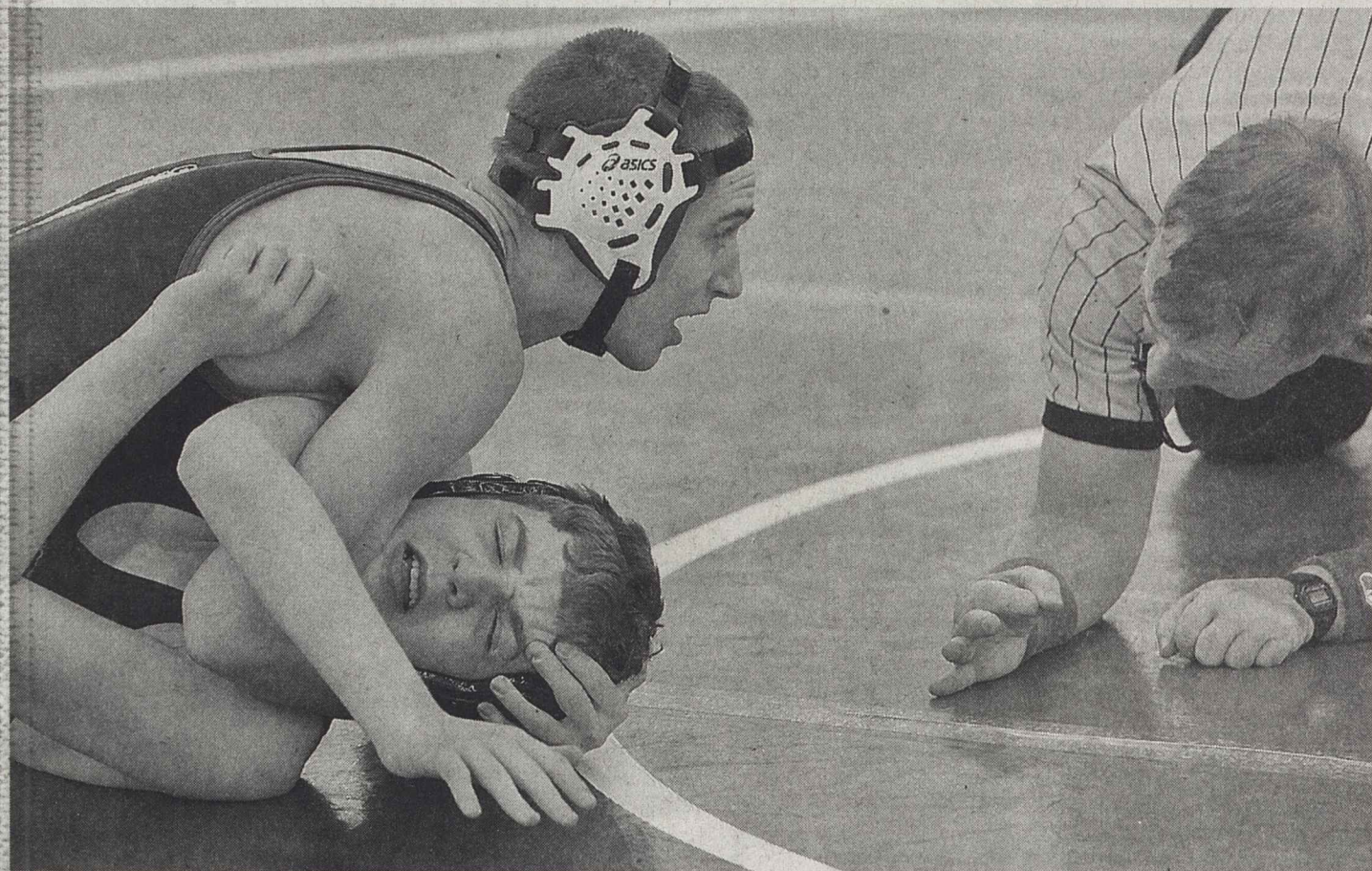
"Fox wanted to be a finalist but he had one of the toughest weight classes in this tournament," said McKenna. "He had a good day for himself. He froze up a little bit in his semi-final match, but he will be in the finals in a couple of different tournaments this year, going forward. Placing third in his weight class at this tournament is a great accomplishment. He'll get better and better."

Lesperance lost his first match and rallied back to win his next four including over Adrian Gedney of Gloucester to finish 4-1 and with a third place medal.

"Andy had a real solid day. In his first match he came out a little flat, but got better as the day went on," said McKenna. "In his last match he was trying to score on that last takedown, but he fell one point short. He had a good day and this is also his first time placing at this tournament."

Alex Rapianzi finished 2-2 at 132 pounds, while Ryan Adams (195) and Mike Dancewicz both finished at 1-2. Pat Carroll, Darren LeBlanc, Sam Jennings and Noah Shanning all finished 0-2.

"We finished in the middle (of the team standings pack)," said McKenna. "We're still growing. We have a lot of young kids who are learning on the fly so it's hard for them sometimes. They are going to take their lumps by learning on the fly but they are all improving."



Shawsheen Tech's Charles McMillan was hoping the referee would give the pin signal but it didn't happen at this moment, but MacMillan did go on to win this match during Saturday's Sons of Italy Wrestling tournament. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

Solid performances early on for WHS Girls Track team

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

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Last week the WHS Girls Track team opened its season with a 45-32 loss to Burlington in a Middlesex League Liberty Division Meet.

"We knew going into the meet that Burlington graduated a lot of their top performers, as did we," said head coach Brian Schell. "Despite the loss, I thought the athletes did very well, not only for their first meet, but for a lot of them competing in new races."

Among the top performances for the Wildcats came from Julia Gake, who more or less tied for first place in the 600 meter race with a

state qualifying time of 1:46.56.

"She ran the race exactly as she should have progressing onto her last lap and ran consistent splits," said Schell. "Unfortunately, a tie does get overlooked by the camera and it was shown that Julia was actually second place by one-thousandths of a second."

Schell also pointed out the performances of several other girls including first places from Sam Pitzi in the 300 (46.6), Brianna Tavares in the shot put (27-4) and Cece Chase in the 55-meter dash (8.1).

"I am really impressed with Cece time as her best time last year was an 8.5 and on the first meet she

took nearly .5 off and anyone who knows sprinting, that is a lot," said Schell.

The other big highlight came from the 4x400 relay team which also qualified for the state meet already. The team of Pitzi, Taylor Santry, Madison Knibbs and Gake finished second, but their 4:30 time is still good enough to compete at the state meet come February.

"I was very pleased to see the girls run solid splits in the relay and it was good to see them satisfied that their efforts qualified them for states," said Schell.

Second places came from Nicole Fletcher in the mile (6:12), Jackie Fraser in the 1,000 (3:42), Elisabeth Olson in the two mile (13:23) and

Danielle Baldi in the 55 hurdles (10.3), while third places came from Mira Patel in the 1,000 (4:09) and Shannon Horgan in the 55-meter dash (8.4).

"The hard work everyone has put forth in the first two weeks of the season as already shown great signs," said Schell. "Throughout the season as the girls gain some more muscle and cardio endurance, I can definitely see a lot more personal records coming."

This past weekend the team competed at the Winter Festival Meet. The day started out strong by the performance of Olson in the mile as she improved her time by an incredible 13 seconds.

"Elisabeth looked very solid and consistent in the mile to lead off the day running her best time by 13 seconds in 5:49.7. She looked comfortable her first half mile and I am pleased to see her performance in all her races progressing."

Gake finished third overall out of roughly 50 athletes in the 600 with a time of 1:41.03.

"Julia is strong competitive runner, and it showed when she pushed a solid 65 second 400 meter split and still held off and passed two runners on the last 50 meter stretch," said Schell.

The 4x200 relay team of Chase, Taeya Peroni, Baldi and Horgan finished at 1:57.4. Other notable per-

formances came from Fletcher in the mile (6:08), Fraser in the 1,000 (3:44), Pitzi (46.5), Madison Knibbs (49.8) and Santry (49.9) in the 300, Katy Bischoff in the high jump (4-4), Chase in the 55 meter dash (8.3) and Baldi in the 55-meter hurdles (10.1).

"Having this young group of committed and hard working student athletes shows a big sign for the team not only now for this season, but the future of the program as well," said Schell. "We are only two meets into the season, and I can already say I am ecstatic with everyone's attitudes and efforts day in a day out."

Girls Hoop/Girls Hockey Round-Ups

Offensive woes hurt Lady Wildcats in first two games

By JAMIE POTE
& BRENDAN FOLEY

At the end of the first quarter on Friday night, the Wilmington High School Girls Basketball team was down by 16 points, had scored just one basket and lost one of its co-captains to a knee injury. Although the offense picked up a tad bit in the remaining three quarters, in the end the Wildcats fell to 0-2 on the young season with a 61-39 loss to Woburn held at the Middle School.

Wilmington struggled mightily offensively, never getting anything going, not to mention going 7-for-21 from the free throw line.

"Defensively we do a lot of nice things but then it takes us forever to get going offensively," said head coach Brie Karow. "We see what we need to do, we know what needs to happen and we don't do it. We're not running our plays, we're taking crazy shots, we're not crashing the boards."

"We practice, practice and practice two hours a day doing all of the right stuff and the kids know what they need to do and they don't do it. I'm not going to blame it on inexperience or youth or anything, as a whole team we need to come together, get our minds right and figure out what we want from this program for the entire season."

"Right now it looks like we want to play Helter-Skelter. They just want to come in hard and bang things off (the backboard), instead of coming in, setting up our offense, calming down, seeing our post-players are wide open, and our post-players need to keep (the ball) up high and finish."

"Defensively we did OK. There was obviously some runs that they made and

some slight slip-ups that we made like we didn't rotate the right way or some missed coverages, but offense it's clearly the dagger to the heart right now. We're not utilizing our bigger players the right way, we're not seeing the floor as good."

Offensively, Wilmington was led by sophomore Christina Woods, who finished with 13 including 9 in the first half, and freshman Caroline Andersen, who finished with 10 points, 7 rebounds and 5 blocks.

"Andersen was strong in there," said Karow. "I know it's only game two, but if we want things to change we need to do it because it's not just going to happen for us. No one is going to do it but us. We have to play both sides, not just defense. I know it's only game two and there's growth, and we had a few more points on the board than we did in the opener against Reading."

"The kids work so hard in practice so you want to see them execute things out here, keep their composure and it's all of us, not just the players but the coaches too."

After trailing 18-2 after the first, Wilmington trailed 39-16 at the half, before cutting it down to 17 at the end of the third quarter as Anderson had five while Amber Peach had one of her two treys. Woburn then opened things back up in the fourth to come away with the win.

Wilmington co-captain Kristen Connors left the game early with a knee injury. She was the team's top scorer in the 35-23 opening season loss to Reading as she pumped in seven points.

The 'Cats faced Lexington on Tuesday with results not known as of presstime and

then are back in action with the Whittier Tech tournament with games Sunday and Monday.

GIRLS HOCKEY

The Wilmington High School Girls Hockey team got their season off to a disappointing start, dropping their first two games against Woburn and Lexington.

With the two losses, coupled with six-straight losing seasons, the team will look to rebound in the upcoming games.

"We have to get more pucks in the net, and we have to be there when the pucks are at the net," interim head coach Mike Gautreau said. "That's the biggest thing. We have to capitalize on rebounds and stuff like that."

The Wildcats fell 8-1 to Woburn in the first game of the season. Sam Grasso notched the only goal for the Wildcats in the effort.

Gautreau attributed the first game's struggle to the overwhelming numbers and skill level of the larger Woburn team. A member of the Middlesex Large School division, Woburn's bench swelled while the fresh-faced Wildcats are still finding their feet on the ice.

"Woburn can roll three or four lines, and I have only two (experienced) lines," Gautreau said. "It's tough to compete with those teams. But we'll do fine."

Even with the poor returns, Gautreau was impressed by the dedication and effort put forth by the Wildcats as they toughed out their first game.

"I thought we played hard," Gautreau said. "I thought we battled."

The Wildcats then took a step back after the Woburn game and adjusted their approach as they headed into a Saturday game



Wilmington High's Kaila Bavin dribbles the ball trying to avoid several Woburn players during Friday night's home loss. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com)

against Lexington. The Wildcats did appreciably better, hanging with Lexington for the entire game. With seconds left, the score was 3-1, Lexington. An open net goal finished the game off with a score of 4-1.

"After the first game, it's all about where you are in the defensive zone," Gautreau said. "We didn't give up as much opportunities. We did a better job at rebounding. But they took advantage of their opportunities and we didn't."

Wilmington jumped on the board with an early goal by Danielle Silva. The first period concluded with the team's locked into a 1-1 stalemate. Lexington was relentless, and that stalemate quickly shifted against the Cats.

"When we came back for the second period Lexington got a couple of goals," Gautreau said. "We fought, and we had opportunities.

We just couldn't capitalize on it."

Gautreau singled out goalie Shelby McHugh for doing an exceptional job holding down the net against an assault of shots during both games.

But while the team is performing solidly on defense, Gautreau stressed that success will be dependent on whether or not the girls can take advantage of scoring opportunities and drive the puck to the net.

"We have to get more pucks in the net, and we have to be there when the pucks are at the net," he said. "That's the biggest thing. We have to capitalize on rebounds and stuff like that."

With so many players on the Wildcats new to the program, Gautreau is aware that their victories are going to need to be hard fought, no matter what game.

"We're not going to be a finesse team, we're going to

have to be a hard-working team," Gautreau said. "We're going to have to take away the other teams' finesse players. We're going to have to play tight, close-up gaps and not let them sneak around us."

While these first two games represent a set-back, Gautreau's enthusiasm for the season is undimmed. He is ready to work with the team to double down on the important areas and start driving towards victory.

"Defensive zone coverage. Pucks to the net. Capitalizing on rebounds," he listed. "I think that's where we're going to get our wins. We're going to have to do the mucking and the grinding."

Wilmington will next face off against Bishop Fenwick High School on Sunday. The team will then host their home opener on New Year's Eve in a 2:30 p.m. game against Burlington.

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Wildcats struggle (again) defensively in opening loss

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com

What has been an ongoing problem over the last two years continued again last Friday night when the Wilmington High School Boys Basketball team opened its season against a very good Woburn squad.

The Wildcats struggled mightily to defend all night long - especially from three-point line where the Tanners connected on five of them in the first quarter, before finishing up going 11-for-25 from downtown, which was more than enough in the 71-50 victory played at the Wilmington Middle School.

"We didn't do what the goal was," said coach Joe Maiella after the loss. "You got to defend the three-point line against good teams. (Woburn) didn't get much inside. I don't know how many two they made in that first half but they made a lot from the three-point line. (Jimmy) McRae played really, really well. He's a very good all-conference player who is back. He can really shoot it and he probably made five or six three-pointers."

"Then you add in the other guys who can shoot it as well and they are tough team. But we have to defend better if we want to contend in this league. We have to defend. We're not going to win any games by giving up ten threes in a game. It can't happen."

"Like I said before, we don't have anyone who can drop 25 points in from the guard position, so we need to defend the three-point line. It's been our achilles heel the last couple of years and that has to change. I expect it to change."

McRae was one of four Woburn (2-0) players to end the night in double figures as he had 19 including four treys in the first quarter alone. Teammates Daniel Moscat (15), Mat Catizone (13) and Andrew Caflin (10) all finished in double figures as the four of them combined for 57 of the team's 71 points.

McRae was on fire after he sank his fourth one, Woburn was up 17-5 with 52 seconds left in the first quarter.

"We have to get out on the shooters quicker," said Maiella about the work that needs to be done defending the perimeter. "We have to our hands up, we have to have better close outs. We know what we need to do it but we have to go out and do it. It's a matter of being on the weak-side help, closing out on the shooter with a hand in his face. We have to be able to react as the ball moves. We are slowly reacting as the ball moves."

"When we are on weak-side help when they are reversing the ball, we have to be there as the ball moves. You have to be sitting on that man, and you can't let him stand there, catch and shoot. You can't let him have a cup of coffee and shoot a three."

Wilmington played better in the second quarter as Matt Spurt and Zach Abbott both hit three-pointers themselves, added in with the strong presence of Connor Bennett (21 points, 11 rebounds) down low, and the deficit was cut to 16 at the break with Woburn ahead 39-23.

After Bennett scored a bucket 29 seconds into the third, Woburn hit two straight treys to go back up by 20, and the lead pretty

much stayed that way until Woburn hit two straight shots, including a trey before the buzzer to go up 62-37 after three quarters before the teams emptied its benches in the final five or six minutes.

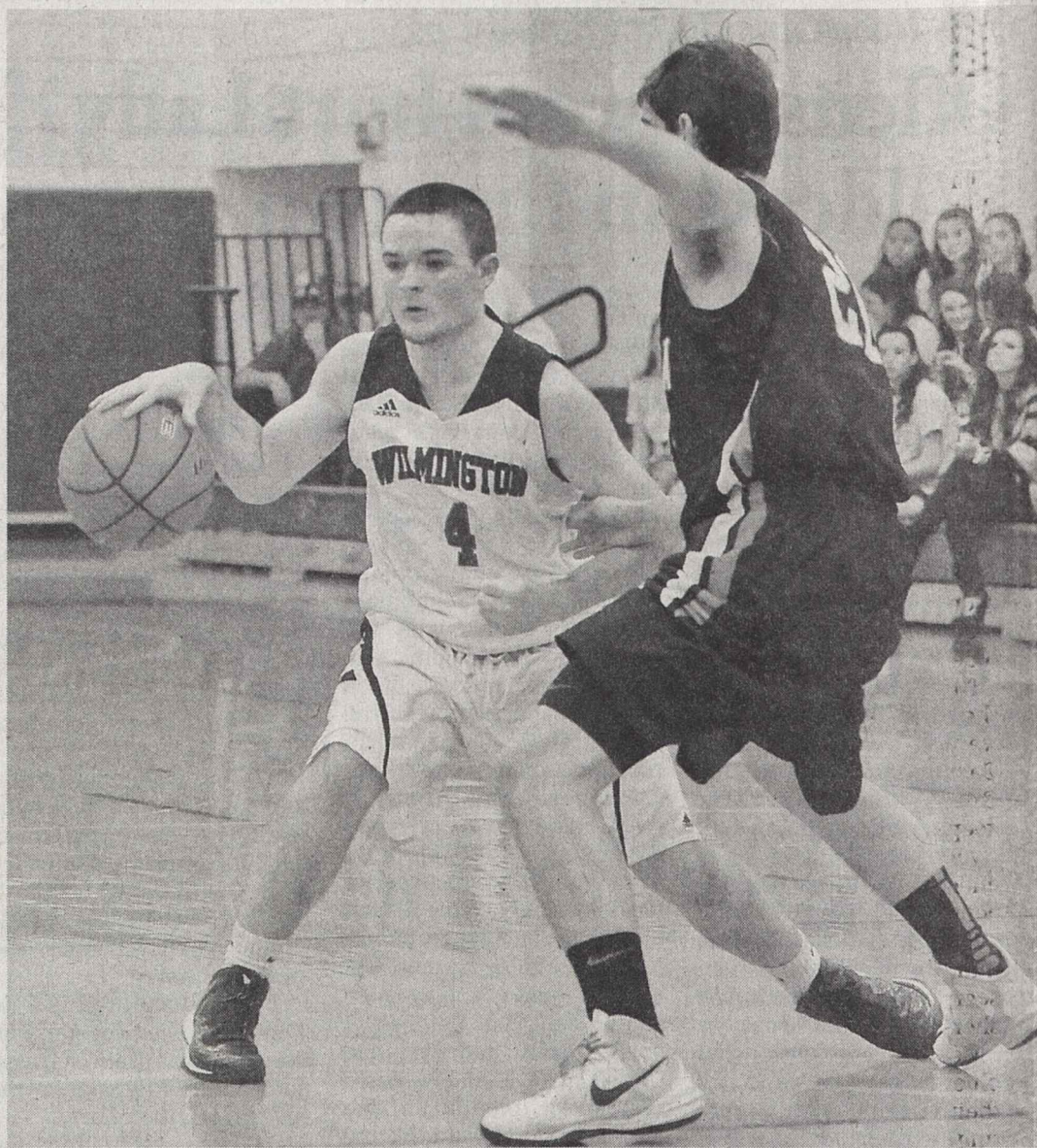
Bennett, Spurr (7) and Abbott (6) combined for 34 points, while freshman Graham Smith provided a lot of spark in his debut, finishing with five points.

"I love this team, I love the work ethic and things are going to get better," said Maiella. "I'm in a good place with this team and where we're at, it's just a matter of us defending. I loved what Graham Smith brought tonight. The kid is going to be a player. You can see it. He has instincts that you can't teach. He's going to get better and better as the season goes on."

"I think we got the ball inside to Connor a little bit early on, but not as much in the second half. That's why we need the outside shooters."

"I'm telling you that it's going to get better. People may think this is another blow out loss. I love the kids in that locker room. This is a tough league. Woburn and Belmont are the two top teams."

Wilmington will be back in action in the annual K of C/McGrath Memorial Christmas Tournament this weekend. The 'Cats will face last year's champion Littleton in the first round on Saturday at 5:30 at Tewksbury High School. Tewksbury will face Windham, NH (who replaces Shawsheen Tech) in the night cap at 7. The two losing teams and two winning teams are back at in on Sunday at 5:30 and 7 pm.



Wilmington High Freshman Graham Smith dribbles with the ball during the Varsity Boys Basketball team's season opening home loss to Woburn on Friday night held at the middle school. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

Wilmington Squirt I's hang on for big victory

Wilmington Squirt I Youth Hockey team set sail against the Newburyport Clippers and rode home with a thrilling 5-4 win.

The two teams were knotted at 1-1, 2-2, 3-3 and 4-4 before Cam Gagnon provided the winning Wildcat margin with fewer than four minutes remaining.

Newburyport scored first in the opening period at 3:03, but Wilmington responded quickly. Jack Farrell, previously denied on a setup by Michael Sullivan, buried one at 4:29. Midway through the period saw razor-sharp goal-tending at both ends, including Michael Daniels getting robbed by the Clipper keeper and Dylan Bloom with an

improbable kick-out save.

When Cam Marzilli found the twine at 8:29, Newburyport answered only 22 seconds later. After Brian Barry's scoring chance was turned aside, the first period ended at 2-2.

The second period began with a fleet of Clippers firing on Bloom but to no avail. Wilmington finally broke out only to have Jack Andersen thwarted by a dazzling glove save.

The Wildcats stormed the enemy cage in waves until Daniels converted a nifty backhand at 2:24. Wilmington soon after found themselves with two men in the penalty box for 30 seconds, but Daniels, Aiden

Murphy and James Caples not only killed off the threat but took the play to the Clippers. Newburyport, however, got the next tally while at even strength and the second period ended at 3-3.

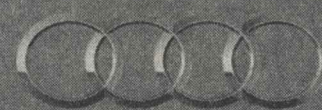
The third period saw Wilmington take the edge in the early play, with Farrell scoring his second goal of the morning in the first minute.

Another fast reply followed in the form of a Clipper goal at 3:24, and the score was tied. It remained for Gagnon to step up on a Wildcat power play to net the winner at 8:41 for the 5-4 hard-fought win.

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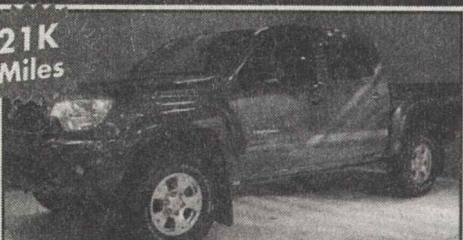
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RedCats come away with an impressive shut out win

REDCATS

The Tewksbury/Wilmington Red Cats Girls U14 team faced off against the Northern Lady Cyclones at Nashoba Olympia in Boxboro on Saturday, and delivered an impressive shutout win.

This one was a complete team effort, with the Red Cats showing hustle and determination in keeping their opponent off the board. Red Cats defender Charlotte Grant opened the scoring in the first period launching a rocket from the blue line to make it 1-0.

The 'Cats kept their nose to the grindstone, with forwards Payton Fuller, Erin Carter, Sam Burke, Erin Green and Meredith Chase keeping the pressure on the Cyclones with strong fore checking throughout the contest.

Thanks to this effort, they managed to get a few good scoring chances even while shorthanded.

Meanwhile, the Red Cat blueliners were holding up their end of the bargain, getting excellent efforts from Emma Surette, Bridget O'Shea, Alianna Sampson, Charlotte Grant and Tess Barrett. They worked to quickly shut down any offensive opportunities by the Cyclones.

When their opponent did manage to get a shot away, goaltender Melanie Hayden was there to smother the opportunity, keeping the shutout intact in first-rate form.

With 5:29 left in the game, Diana Riley lit the lamp to make it 2-0 on a beautiful pass from Gina Bertolami to give the Red Cats some breathing room.

The remainder of the game featured more of the same complete game effort and commitment from the Red Cats, as they posted the well-deserved 2-0 shutout victory.

Wilmington Pee Wee 2

The Wilmington Youth

Hockey Association Pee Wee 2 squad had back to back games on the weekend before Christmas.

On Saturday afternoon at Merrimack College, the Wildcats took on Masco with a full bench and an empty net.

An equipment problem kept Max Churchill on the bench for the opening minutes, and so Conor Peterson played third defense as a sort of free safety behind blue liners Ryan Packer and Justin Healey.

Masco took advantage and worked hard to control the puck and fire away at goal from all angles. Starting center Brayden Sanborn and wings Will Alworth and Joseph Cornish worked just as hard to slow down the attack and keep the puck away from the defensive zone. Masco did manage one goal before the Wilmington had a proper goalie.

With Churchill in net, the Wildcats dominated the first period despite being called for two penalties. At the five minute mark, Joseph Cornish tied the score at one with an assisted from Sanborn.

In the next minute Cornish got the assist on Anthony Bowker's go-ahead goal. After Wilmington killed off a penalty, Cornish earned another assist, this time on Will Alworth's first goal of the game.

The second period was another strong showing for the 'Cats. The second defense pairing of Brian Dunfey and Jake Glinner slowed the Masco attack, while the forward lines pressed Masco into taking three consecutive penalties.

The third time was the charm for the power play, as Alworth added his second and the team's fourth with an assist from Sanborn.

Masco quickly cut in to the three goal lead in the final period, with a goal in the first minute. Soon after, the Wildcats were called for a

penalty and Masco looked to draw within one.

That power play didn't work out, but Wilmington was called for two more penalties in the third, and it took penalty killing efforts from Joseph Hartzell and Jason Davey to maintain the lead. Back at even strength, Wilmington controlled the final minutes and skated off with the 4-2 win.

On Sunday morning the Wildcats were at the Fessenden School in Newton to play against Needham. The shuffled lineup had Brendon George shifted to defense and Jake Glinner moved to the left wing, and Joseph Hansen going to center.

Needham took an early penalty, but the Wilmington power play couldn't convert. Late in the first it was Needham going on top with a goal out of a net-front scramble.

The second period saw a second Wilmington power play killed off by Needham. It was Needham's power play that made a difference by scoring with four minutes left in the period for a two goal lead. The Wildcats answered before the second period ended, with Joseph Hansen scoring on Justin Healey's assist.

The third period played out evenly, but with just under two minutes Wilmington pulled the goalie for an extra attacker and did everything but score the equalizer. Holding the play in the offensive zone, they had several good looks at the net but couldn't crack Needham's goalie.

Wilmington Mite 3's

The Wilmington Wildcat Mite 3s lit the lamp quite a few times in their decisive 16-5 win over Greater Lowell on Sunday in Methuen.

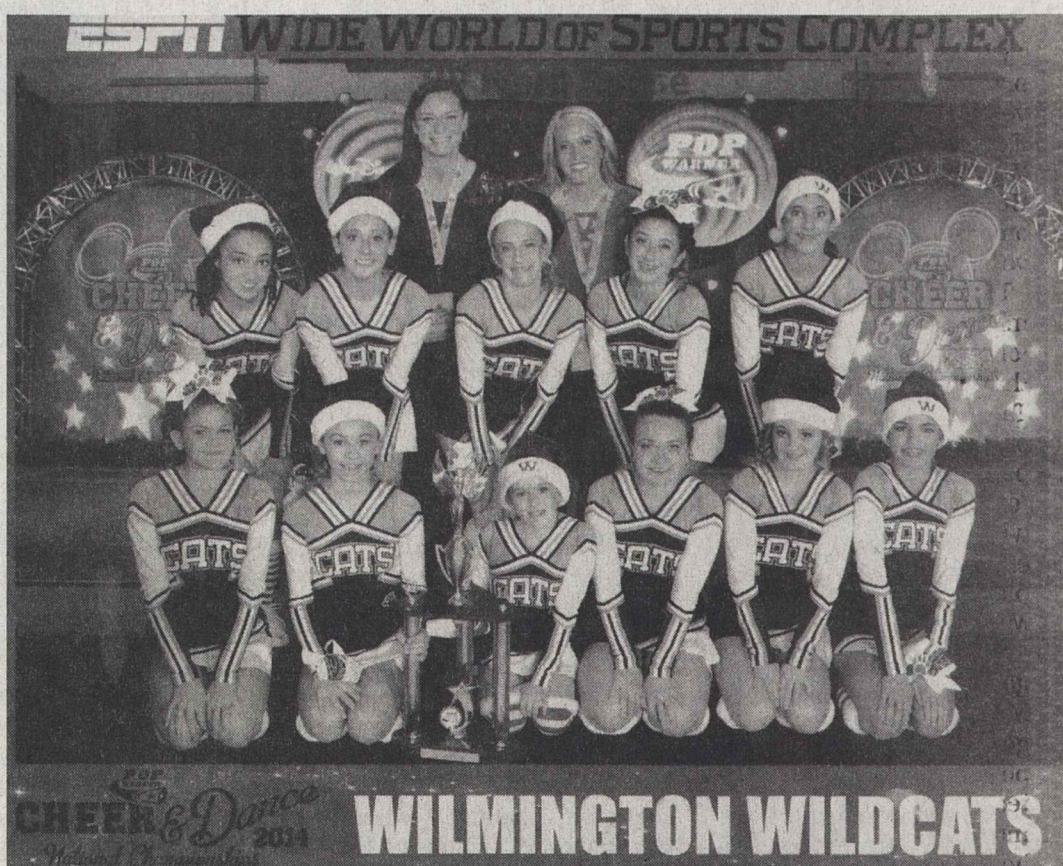
The Cats scoring was led by Nolan Joyce with six goals, Nick DiGiovanni with three goals, Ryan Quamme and Lily MacKenzie each

had two and Matt Driscoll, Kiely Bloom and Derek Perault adding goals of their own.

If the scoring bonanza was-

n't enough, the Cats defense with Zack Guyette along with the fantastic goaltending of Megan Mullarky kept Greater Lowell completely

out of the game. With this win, the Mite 3 Cats are now 7-0 and in first place in the Mite Central AA Blue division of the Valley League.



The Wilmington Midget Cheerleading team includes: Bottom Row from left: Tori Sanborn, Lexi Williams, Shannon Barrett, Marisa Jackson, Bailey Steen, Alex Dirienzo; Middle Row: Gabby Rosa, Kaitlyn Howland, Chloe McCauley, Gianna Zaccagnini and Ari Catalano; Back Row: Coaches Lauren Parisi and Andrea DiPasquale. (courtesy photo).

Midget Cheerleaders take third

The Wilmington Pop Warner Midget Cheerleading team had traveled to Florida recently for the National Championship competition and came home with an impressive third place finish.

The team is coached by Andrea DiPasquale and Lauren Parisi, who were both on the first Wilmington Pop Warner Cheer Team to make it to the Nationals competition 15 years ago.

"To coach a team and make it to the same Nationals that we went to 15 years ago is an amazing and very proud feeling," said DiPasquale. Like every

team this team endured some struggles and injuries throughout the season, but the eleven girls kept pushing forward and it made them stronger.

"We competed against some teams that had up to 24 girls on their team. We may only have been a team of eleven but they held their own and stacked up to the competition."

Wilmington was a Level 4 team and in Pop Warner that is the most advanced level a team can declare. The Level 4 competition was the only level that was broadcasted live nationally on ESPN3.

This team consists of

extremely talented and strong middle school aged girls, all of whom have cheered before. It is always a bittersweet time at the last competition for this team because we graduate our eighth graders.

This year the team graduates five cheerleaders.

Both coaches would like to thank our parents and community for the support, this season and the sponsors who were able to make this trip possible.

"We are very proud of all our girls, they represented all Wilmington extremely well," said DiPasquale.

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Shawsheen Tech Sports Round-Up

Co-Ed Swim team split first two meets

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com
BILLERICA -- The Shawsheen Tech Co-Ed Swim Team will be looking to build on the success of last year's strong season on both the Girls and Boys side when they take to the pool this season. The Girls Squad comes into this season off of a state vocational title last season, while the boys come in following a second place finish in the vocational meet, with both teams hoping to be even better this season.

The Rams kicked off their season this past week by going 1-1 in a pair of meets, dropping a 94-65 decision to Mystic Valley last Wednesday on the road, while pulling out a 104-54 win over CAC rival Lynn Tech on Friday at the Shawsheen Pool.

In the win over Lynn Tech, the Rams were led by several outstanding performances up and down their lineup, with perhaps nobody having a bigger day than Cam Rebidue, who finished first in three events, taking the 200 individual medley in a time of 2:20.83, while being part of a pair of first place finishes in the relay.

In the 200 medley relay Rebidue teamed up with Ryan Phelan, Mikey Mariconi and Bobby Eisenhauer to take first place in a time of 1:57.56, while in the 200 freestyle relay he teamed up with Eisenhauer, Phelan and Austin Hamilton to take first in a time of 1:48.55.

Nicole Kopacz of Tewksbury had a big day of her own, winning the 100 butterfly in a time of 1:14.64 and finishing second in the 200 freestyle relay along with Christine Gath of Tewksbury, Lauren Barlett and team captain Lauren Liscio in a time of 1:02.38.

Shawsheen's Ryan Phelan won the 100 meter breaststroke in a time of 1:02.38, while also being a part of the winning 200 medley relay team.

Despite the loss to Mystic Valley, the Rams did get several outstanding performances, starting with Ryan Phelan, who had a huge day, taking first place as part of the freestyle relay team along Alan Perez, Jonathan Pinette and Bobby Eisenhauer, while also taking second in the 200 freestyle relay, and the 100 meter butterfly.

The Rams swept the backstroke event with Eisenhauer taking first in a time of 1:10.99, followed by

Lauren Barletta and Mikey Mariconi, and also swept the breaststroke with Cam Rebidue taking first in a time of 1:12.56, followed by Perez and Marissa Cushing.

Nicole Kopacz was also strong in this, finishing second in the 400 freestyle relay along with Lauren Liscio, Cailleigh Burton and Kylie Weser.

Other key members of the Rams team expected to contribute this season include Tewksbury residents Matthew Pereira, Marina Duffy, Nicole Bennett, Sabrina Fernandes, Taylor Kelley, Macayla Taylor, Christine Gath and Connor Brennan, along with Wilmington residents Melissa King and Paige Ryan.

The Rams will take some time off for the holiday break, but will be back in action on January 7 when they travel to Tyngsboro to take on CAC rival Greater Lowell.

GIRLS HOOP

It was a week of mixed results for the Shawsheen Tech Girls Basketball team, as the Lady Rams played their first two games of the season and 1-1, with 69-56 loss to CAC frontrunner Whittier last Thursday, which was preceded by a 58-45 win over Mystic Valley last Monday.

Shawsheen actually played pretty well in both games, including the loss to Whittier where they trailed just 34-26 at the half before the powerful Wildcats pulled away in the third quarter.

New Shawsheen coach Aimee Sueltenfuss had seen her team get off to a strong start with the win against Mystic Valley on Monday she thought that despite a negative result, her team continued to play well against Whittier.

"Overall I was pleased with our play for this game. Whittier really is a great team and will be tough to beat," Sueltenfuss said. "We hung in there and kept our heads high which is what I really wanted the girls to do. Facing them so early in the season was tough too, but we never let them intimidate us."

Even when Whittier did pull away in the third quarter, Sueltenfuss was pleased with her team's effort in sticking with the consensus league favorite.

"In the third quarter we let them run a bit on us and that really made it impossible to overcome the deficit but again we hung in," she said. "The fourth quarter was mostly both of our benches and it shows that we are young and our future is bright."

Senior guard Emily Irwin continued her hot start to the season with 28 points for the Lady Rams, while junior Kathryn Milliken had nine points and junior guard Mackenzie Griffin of Wilmington played very well in helping Irwin bring the ball up and relieve some pressure especially when Whittier boxed out Irwin on defense.

Things went much better for the Lady Rams on Monday as they kicked off their season with a 58-45 win over Mystic Valley, taking control of the game right from the start and never letting their opponents out of an early hole.

"We played very well in that game and came out strong and never let up," Sueltenfuss said. "We had a defensive plan and we stuck to it which worked and let us stay ahead."

Irwin once again led the way for the Lady Rams with 25 points, four rebounds and nine steals. While it maybe unrealistic to expect 25 points per night from the senior star, Sueltenfuss knows she has a special player on her hands.

"She is capable of great things and anyone that has a chance to watch her play understands the magnitude of the player she is. She is very calm in her demeanor on the court and she makes things happen," Sueltenfuss said. "When she picked up her third foul in that game I told her she needed to play smart and not pick up any careless fouls and that is exactly what she did. Hopefully, she will continue in this role and lead us to great things."

Senior forward and captain Malorie Kiehl had a fine all around game for the Lady Rams with eight points and seven rebounds, even catching the attention of some Shawsheen fans in attendance.

"Malorie was great against Mystic and a couple people came to see me in the building to ask me who number 22 was because they had never seen her play like that," Sueltenfuss said. "That position was one of my concerns this season especially when I need to use Kathryn Milliken as the center if Tara Mickle is in foul trouble which has been the case so far."

Junior guard Eileen O'Neill also played well for Shawsheen, giving the Lady Rams some key minutes off the bench.

"I think we showed that I can go to my bench for short spurts and we will be okay," Sueltenfuss said. "In the second quarter my starter Holly DeCoursey was in foul trouble and Eileen went in strong and knew exactly where she was supposed to be on the plays and it showed me I can count on my whole team when needed."

Shawsheen will be back in action next Tuesday night when they hit the road to take on non-league rival Millis for a 6:30 tip-off.

BOYS HOCKEY

The Shawsheen Boys Hockey team could not be off to a much better start after three games, as the Rams are currently 3-0 on the season, with a pair of impressive wins in their past two games, over Bishop Fenwick last Thursday and then Haverhill on Monday.

In the 5-3 win over Fenwick at the Hallenborg Pavilion the Rams got an outstanding performance from senior forward Ryan Collins who figured in all five goals with two goals and three assists.

Hunter Sawicki added a pair of goals for the Rams, who led 4-1 after the first period, scoring their first goal in the first minute of the game.

Junior forward Zack Buckland scored his first varsity goal for the Rams in the victory while senior goalie Ryan Barnard was stellar in net, making 18 saves.

The win was also the 600th in the storied history of the Shawsheen hockey program.

Shawsheen followed up that win with another impressive performance in the first round of the Haverhill Christmas Tournament, with a 3-2 shootout victory over host Haverhill. The game was a thriller from start to finish with the Rams holding leads of 1-0 after one period and 2-1 after two before senior forward Gabe Colletti won it for the Rams in the tenth round of shootout.

The Rams had started their season back on December 11 with an 8-0 win over Nashoba Tech with Sawicki scoring four goals and adding an assist, while senior Dan Huckins had two goals and three assists.



The Shawsheen Tech Co-Ed Swimming team has plenty of Tewksbury residents on this year's roster including: Seated from left, Matthew Pereira, Marina Duffy, Lauren Barletta, Nicole Bennett, and Sabrina Fernandes; Second row from left: Nicole Kopacz, Taylor Kelley, Andrick Godoy, and Molly Harrington; And Back row from left: Kerin O'Hearn, Macayla Taylor, Cristine Gath, and Connor Brennan.
(photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).



Wilmington residents on the Shawsheen Swimming team includes, Melissa King, left, and Paige Ryan.
(photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).



Local players on this year's Shawsheen Tech Boys Hockey team includes: Front row from Tewksbury, Phil Masotta and Jack Stone; And back row from Wilmington, Robbie Greenberg, Andrew Duarte, Andrew Brown, and John Murray.
(photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

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BOARD OF APPEALS

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held at the Town Hall, 121 Glen Road on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. on the following applications:

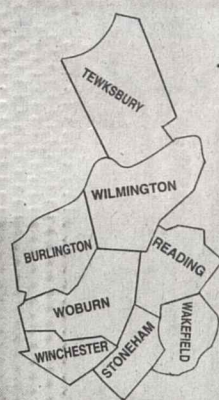
Case 1-15
Michael Tkachuk
c/o R. Peterson, Esq.
Map 45 Parcel 70

To acquire a Special Permit in accordance with §6.1.6.4 to increase a nonconforming structure to demolish and replace an existing nonconforming dwelling no closer to one side than 3.3 feet or to the front 20 feet for property located on 4 Cottage Street.

Case 2-15
Lubbers Brook Development LLC
Map 81 Parcel 6

To amend Comprehensive Permit #66-2003 to reduce the number of affordable units from 30% to 25% for property located at 195 Salem Street.

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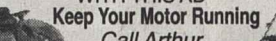
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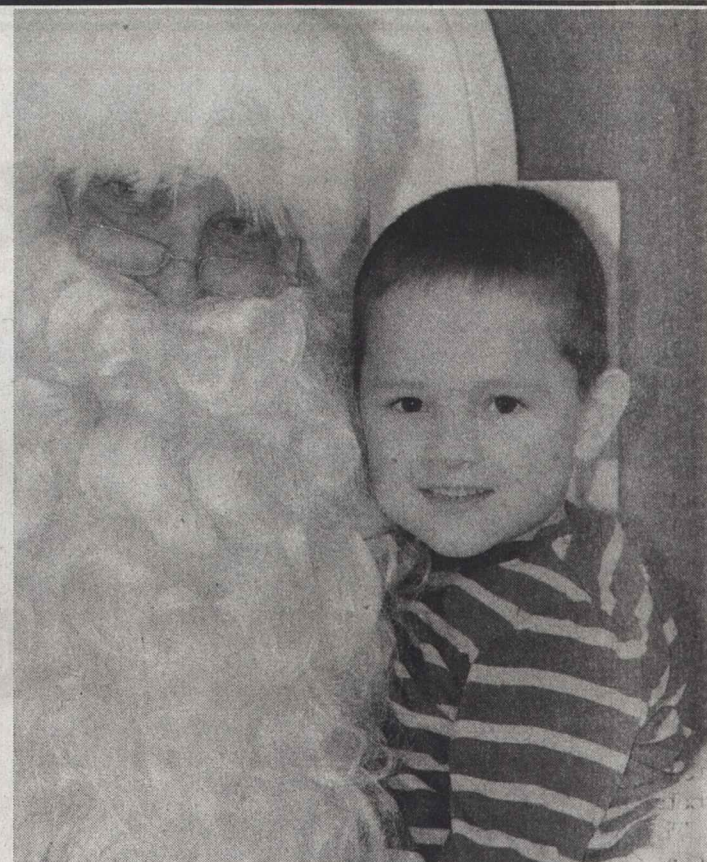
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William Driscoll sat with Santa at St. Williams on Saturday.
Photo by Maureen Brady/www.shootingstarspix.com

Holiday Hacking Safety Tips

We've all lost our identity at least three times, with more than 930 million records breached, lost or stolen to hackers and cyber criminals, says consumer advocacy non-profit Privacy Rights Clearinghouse.

Why don't we do all we can to stay safer online?

According to StaySafeOnline.org, more than a quarter of Americans say they lack the information necessary.

So, here it is - everything you need to know to enjoy the Christmas shopping experience without losing your privacy and identity or putting your children's safety at risk:

- Assume you've already been compromised. Whether it's your baby monitor, your SmartTV, the Webcam on your laptop or apps you installed on your smartphone or tablet, your antivirus is not enough protection. It's time to take those devices' and apps' privacy policies, and the permissions you grant them, much more seriously.

- Change your passwords - all of them. Change your passwords - all of them. Now. And do it as frequently as you can tolerate. Also, if you don't want to change it often, then use any unique characters you can think of, such as a dollar sign (\$) or exclamation mark (!), or replace an "oh" with a "zero" (0). This goes a long way in preventing attacks against your password.

- Turn off wireless and geolocation services. Protect your smartphones and tablets by turning off WiFi, Bluetooth, NFC and GPS, except when you need them. That way, if you are at a local coffee shop or in a shopping mall, no one can spy on you using nearby (proximity) hacking attacks and they can't track where you were and where you are going on your GPS.

- Assume most of your apps are creepware. Assume most of your smartphone or tablet apps are creepware - malware that spies on you and your online behavior. Do you really need them? Delete all of the apps you aren't using too often. Replace apps that ask for too many permissions and take advantage of too many of your privacy settings - like GPS, phone and sms logs, personal identity information - with similar apps that don't.

- Opt out of sharing your information. Opt out of every advertising network that you can. Visit the National Do Not Call Registry and register your smartphone and home phone numbers at www.donotcall.gov. If you use a Google email account and have an Android phone, even with your GPS off, it's tracking your every move. (Log in to maps.google.com/location-history/b/0 and see for yourself.) Go into your smartphone or tablet settings and turn this feature off. In your Android phone, go to

Settings, then Location, select Google Location Reporting and set Location History to off. The same holds true for the Apple iPhone, iPad and iTunes. You need to find the location and privacy settings and turn off access under Settings, then Privacy then Location.


- Your browser is a double agent - keep it clean. It is spying on you for advertisers unless you block and remove cookies and delete the cache frequently. In your web browser settings, delete your history, all cookies and passwords and the cache. You should do this frequently so you don't leave personal information sitting around on your computer, smartphone or tablet.

- Remove third-party Facebook plugins. Third-party plugins are mini applications designed to eavesdrop on your behavior in Facebook and possibly grab information about your habits within that social network. Some websites you visit will require you to log in using Facebook, and then you have to trust them to connect to your Facebook account. This is very risky. Read their privacy policy and make sure they are a legitimate business before you risk doing this.

- Only shop on the websites of companies you already trust. If you don't know where the merchant is located, don't shop online there. If they don't have a corporate address or are located in another country, it is risky for you and you may never see the goods you think you purchased. Also, if their shopping cart experience is not an HTTPS browser session, then everything you type in, your name, address and credit card information, is going over the internet unencrypted - in plain view.

- Turn off geotagging - your photos are full of information. Twitter and Instagram as well as your iPhone will give away your location. Most people don't realize Twitter and Instagram both use geotagging for everything you send out. Geotagging stores the latitude and longitude of your tweet or image. Pictures you take on an iPhone usually store geotagging information, as well. The less information you give out about where you are located, the safer you are.

- Don't use cash or debit cards - use credit cards, wisely. Credit cards allow you to travel with less cash, and if you're purchasing online, it's safer to give your credit card than your debit card information. The same holds true when you visit your local retail outlet. The reason? If you experience identity theft, credit card laws allow you to keep all of your credit, with no responsibility during an investigation. With a debit card, your bank can tie up your money in the amount equivalent to the fraudulent transactions for up to 30 days.



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Movie Reviews

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THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES

MIDDLESEX EAST appearing in Daily Times - Chronicle (Reading, Woburn, Winchester, Burlington, Wakefield), Lynnfield Villager, No. Reading Transcript, Wilmington & Tewksbury Town Crier, Stoneham Independent

Recipe

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MERRY MEATBALLS



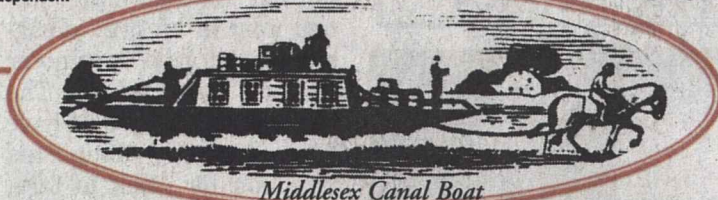
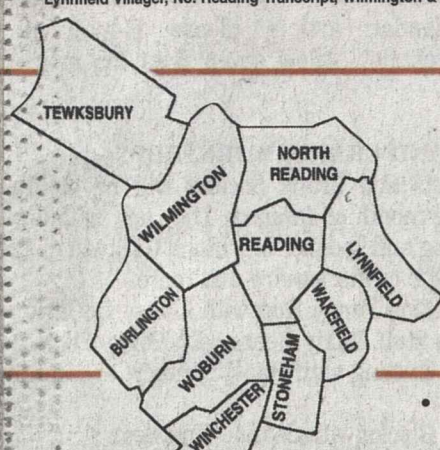
Real Estate

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JOBS! JOBS! S-6



TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 23, 24, 2014 - PAGE S-1



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Burlington skater Krissy Flanagan trains for Winter Olympics 2018

BY RYAN LAROCHE

The idea of dropping out of high school could appeal to a number of students. It definitely appealed to Burlington resident Krissy Flanagan. However, Flanagan didn't leave Burlington High School to sit around and watch TV all day. For Flanagan, leaving high school hasn't stopped her education.

Since leaving BHS, Flanagan has been able to focus more on her real passion in life - figure skating. Fortunately, she continues to learn, as well.

The Burlington native grew up with a passion for skating. But unlike her father and sister, both hockey players, Flanagan has no interest in putting on pads and a helmet. She prefers the more artistic side of skating.

She hopes her dreams, passion and skill will carry her to the Winter Olympics in 2018 in PyeongChang, South Korea. It's a long journey to get to the Olympics for a figure skater. First come regionals, then sectionals and nationals, and then the top two or three skaters from nationals qualify for the Olympics.

In order to have the time to train, Flanagan had to leave BHS. Don't worry, though, she's not a high school dropout. She merely transferred schools. Not to another town or to a private school, but instead, she's now learning online at TECCA. With her virtual classes, Flanagan now has the time to hit the ice more often and improve her skating.

TECCA (TEC Connections Academy) bills itself as a "free virtual public school in Massachusetts." According to the website www.connectionsacademy.com <<http://www.connectionsacademy.com/>> , "Students in Massachusetts now have the opportunity to thrive at TEC Connections Academy Commonwealth Virtual School (TECCA), a tuition-free public virtual school. TECCA gives students the flexibility to learn at home with a curriculum that meets rigorous state education standards."

"We tailor our approach for students of all abilities—preparing students to succeed in school, and in life. TECCA helps each student maximize his or her potential and meet the highest performance standards through a uniquely individualized learning program."



KRISSY FLANAGAN TRAINS at her rink in Hudson, NH. The Burlington resident left Burlington High School for TECCA a virtual, online school to focus more on her skating in hopes of one day making the Olympics.

Flanagan said she left BHS because, "I knew I needed more time on the ice every day in order to make the improvements I needed to make, and attending TECCA made that possible."

Her parents, Anita Crowley and Bill Flanagan, while supportive, were also nervous. Her mom said, "Yes, I was very nervous for Krissy to leave BHS. She is a very good student and I was uncertain of how virtual school would affect her going on to college."

Mom needn't worry, though. After researching the school, Crowley found out that TECCA has had many students go on to great colleges.

"I've been very pleased with the transition and Krissy is really thriving at TECCA," Crowley continued.

Her dad, Bill, never doubted Krissy's commitment to skating.

Flanagan to S-4

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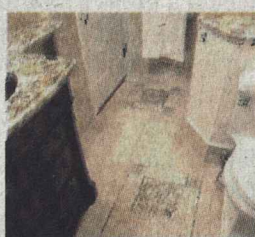
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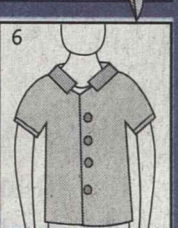
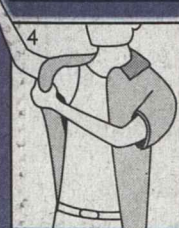
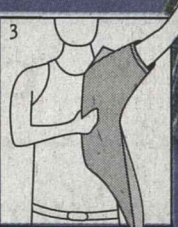
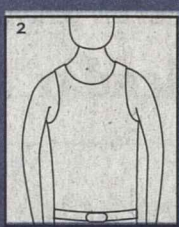
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Movie Reviews

by Paul Feely

"The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies"



THE SPECIAL EFFECTS, COMPLETED BY A CREW OF thirty-five, and visual effects, created by 388 specialists, are spectacular. Tolkien's masterpiece is a children's classic.

"THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES"

J.R.R. Tolkien's classic novel, "The Hobbit, or There and Back Again", is brought to a cinematic conclusion by director Peter Jackson with this third film. Adapted by Jackson, his wife Fran Walsh, Philippa Boyens and Guillermo del Toro, "The Battle of Five Armies" is a stirring ending to a project that has consumed multiple years of Jackson's life, beginning with winning the rights to film "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy in 1997.

Loveable and sensible Bilbo Baggins (Martin Freeman) is once again at the forefront, along with Thorin Oakenshield (Richard Armitage) and the Company of Dwarves. When we left off last year in "The Desolation of Smaug", Smaug (voiced by Benedict Cumberbatch) was on the verge of destroying Laketown, which he accomplishes now with a mighty fury - and a lot of fiery breath.

Meanwhile, the Dwarves of Erebor have managed to find their way to their beloved homeland and its vast treasure. But Thorin, the King Under the Mountain, becomes stricken with dragon-sickness, and will not relinquish even one gold coin to save his fellow dwarves.

Thorin has become obsessed with finding the Arkenstone, supposedly buried amongst the bounty, and will not listen to reason. As his madness increases, the lives of all around are in peril. Sauron, the Dark Lord, stages an attack upon Lonely Mountain with legions of Orcs, and the battle of the five armies ensues.

There is definitely a great deal to keep track of

here, but the movie is a lot of fun. Fans of the series have come to love the characters, especially Bilbo Baggins, Gandalf (Ian McKellen), Thranduil (Lee Pace), Tauriel (Evangeline Lilly) and Legolas (Orlando Bloom), to name a few.

And, as always, the special effects, completed by a crew of thirty-five, and visual effects, created by 388 specialists, are spectacular. We have become so accustomed to Jackson's ability to piece together amazing stories on film utilizing everything at his disposal, that we begin to take his development of Middle-earth for granted.

Tolkien's masterpiece is a children's classic. If you're an adult, and don't care for fantasy, don't go to see these films.

However, for a luscious 3-D experience, with all of the action, and a superb cast, one simply cannot do better than a Jackson creation.

"TOP FIVE"

Chris Rock is one of the great stand-up comedians out there right now, but his movies have been hit or miss. With TOP FIVE, that all changes in a big way.

Basically, Chris Rock has taken the energy and commentary that he brings to his stand-up and translated it perfectly into a big-screen outing. TOP FIVE allows him to go-off on plenty of tangents while still telling a strong story, in which he plays a superstar comedian with a bad history as an alcoholic, and a bunch of soul-sucking comedies under his belt in which he starred as a crime-fighting bear cop.

As with the best stand-up comic generated hits like LOUIS, CURB YOUR ENTHUSIASM, and SEINFELD, there's a strong

autobiographical undercurrent running through TOP FIVE. While Rock doesn't seem to be as troubled as his character here, it's hard not to read into the frustration his character feels at being pigeonholed into dopey comedies.

But, Rock also sends up the tendency for comics to attempt to crossover into drama with his alter-ego having just written, directed and starred in a big-budget flop about the Haitian Slave Uprising called UPRIZE, with clever sequences nailing the self-important vibe many stars-turned-directors take.

Yet, at the same time TOP FIVE is almost certainly his own attempt at a big-screen reinvention, ditching the broad, family-friendly humor of something like GROWN-UPS, for a hard-R, racy tone.

As a comedy, TOP FIVE is one of the funniest movies of the year. Every once in a while, Rock takes a break from the plot to dive into a

little side-story, like the kinds he tells in his stand-up, with flashbacks illustrating them, such as the night his character found himself the unwilling second man in an orgy alongside a crazed promoter played by Cedric The Entertainer. This could have been a really dangerous direction for Rock to take, as they may well have made the film feel episodic.

Surprisingly, he manages to tie them into the storyline without a hitch. Additionally, Rock gets a lot of his famous friends to show up in cameos as themselves, generating major laughs, including Whoopi Goldberg, Adam Sandler, and a foul-mouthed Jerry Seinfeld.

December 30th

Immigration presentation on Obama policy

On Tuesday, December 30 at 7 p.m. in the Woburn Public Library's Study Hall, join Attorney Melissa McNamee Venceslau from VenLaw Immigration Solutions for an informational presentation entitled "All about Obama's Executive Actions on Immigration."

Whether you have questions about the impact these executive actions will have on your life or their effect on the country, this program will help answer them.

While the presentation will be in English, Ms. McNamee Venceslau is fluent in both Portuguese and Spanish and will be able to answer questions in those languages.

Light refreshments will be served, and handicapped access can be arranged by calling 781-933-0184.

Parker River Refuge free January programs

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge will be offering the following free public programs during the month of January. Please note that many of the refuge programs require preregistration. Registrations are not confirmed until the registrant receives a phone call from a member of the refuge staff. Anyone having a question about a refuge program is asked to contact the refuge at (978) 465-5753.

Refuge Family Cinema Movies for Kids and Families

Sunday, January 4th at 1:30 pm: Finding Nemo

Sunday, January 18th at 1:30 pm: The Lion King

Spend a cold winter afternoon watching a great FREE film on the big screen in the comfort of the visitor center auditorium. These are great, entertaining family films with environmental themes. No preregistration for these programs.

Photographic Society of Parker River meet

Next Meeting: Saturday, January 10th @ 1:30 pm

The Photographic Society welcomes anyone who has an interest in nature, wildlife, and/or photography - whether you are a total novice or earn a living by taking pictures! The club meets every month, generally on the second Saturday afternoon. Venue capacity is limited to 75 attendees (first-come, first-served). Admission to this program is free and preregistration is NOT required.

Behind the Scenes Tour

Held on the following days: Saturday, Jan. 3rd at 9:30 am; Sunday, Jan. 4th at 1:00 pm; Wednesday, Jan. 7th at 9:30 am; Sunday, Jan. 11 at 1:00 pm; Saturday, Jan. 17th at 9:30 am; Sunday, Jan. 18th at 1:00 pm; Wednesday, Jan. 21st at 9:30 am; Saturday, Jan. 24th at 9:30 am; Sunday, Jan. 25th at 1:00 pm; Saturday, Jan. 31st at 9:30 am

Join a refuge ranger for a behind the scenes tour of Parker River. Again, this is a vehicle-based tour, with limited stops on the Refuge. Advance registration is required for this program, as enrollment is limited. Please call (978) 465-5753 to register for this program.

Calendar of Events

To submit a Calendar article please E-mail it to Middlesexeast@comcast.net. Allow seven days for article to appear.

STONEHAM ARTS AND CRAFTS WORKSHOPS

The Stoneham Arts and Crafts Society will be holding 4 workshops during the month of January. They are as follows.

January 7 - meeting and speaker Marianne Gallivan of CRE-ATE artisan studio DIY crafts jewelry and more.

January 14 - Valentine Penny Rug with Louise DeCarlo and Eva Hopwood, and to Stuff Teddy Bears with Peggy Silva.

January 21 - Arm knitting with Hazel Lambert and continue Penny Rug.

January 28 - quilt Blocks with Jeanne Knowles.

Doors open at 9 a.m. Call Carole Salines to join or for more information at 617-877-9003.

LOADING DOCK GALLERY WINTER LIGHTS EVENT

The Loading Dock Gallery at Western Avenue Studios, 122 Western Avenue in Lowell once again transforms its showcase exhibit area into a glittery holiday shopping venue, filled with a huge selection of art that is perfect for gift giving.

This year, the "Winter Lights 7" exhibit will have the largest display in the history of this exhibit, combining the talents of more than 30 local artists.

Winter Lights 7 runs now through December 28 Wednesday through Saturday, noon to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday noon to 4 p.m.

Stop in and shop local for unique gifts and support the artists in the community.

THREE SPECIAL EVENTS AT STONEHAM THEATRE

From world-class vocal jazz to celebrity impersonations and humorous inspirations, Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main Street, heats things up with three special events and offers a great way to get out of the cold this January.

New York Voices jazz up the stage with their Grammy Award-winning vocals for two performances this New Year's Eve at 7 pm and 10 pm.

The Edwards Twins return to Stoneham Theatre in an all-new show for 2015 this January 8-11. These identical twin brothers have been performing their Vegas-style act together for over 20 years.

The incomparable Loretta LaRoche is back at Stoneham Theatre with another great one-woman show from January 9-11, 2015. Ms. LaRoche is a motivational and keynote speaker, an international stress management and humor consultant, author, and PBS sensation.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Stoneham Theatre's Box Office at 781-279-2200, or visit www.stonehamtheatre.org <<http://www.stonehamtheatre.org>>.

SOLIVAN & BLUEGRASS BAND AT LINDEN TREE

On Saturday, January 10 at 8 p.m. the Linden Tree Coffeehouse at the UU Church, 326 Main Street in Wakefield, will continue its 30th season with Frank Solivan and his bluegrass band Dirty Kitchen.

The group was named Instrumental Group of the Year 2014 by the International Bluegrass Music Association.

The cost is \$20, students under 13 \$10. For more information or reservations call 781-246-2836 or visit www.LindenTreeCoffeehouse.org.

MISHAWUM CHORAL SOCIETY REHEARSALS

Are you a music buff? Do you enjoy singing? Would you like to participate in a fun activity with other music lovers guaranteed to bring you joy and pleasure in the new year? Then, come sing with Mishawum!

The Mishawum Choral Society of Woburn will be holding open rehearsals for potential new members during the month of January, 2015.

On Tuesday evening, January 6, 2015, the chorale will begin "tuning up" for its spring concert, and all new enthusiastic singers are welcome!

Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the music room at Woburn High School, located at 88 Montvale Avenue in Woburn.

Those interested in joining the group are invited to attend rehearsals during the month of January. Try singing for the month, and then decide if it is right for you.

Although no formal auditions are required, new members should have experience singing with other vocal parts and have some basic knowledge of music notation.

A CAPPELLA ENSEMBLE AT PHILLIPS JANUARY 16

On Saturday, January 16 at 7:30 p.m. the Phillips Academy Music Department will present the British a cappella ensemble Apollo5. This concert, free and open to the public, will take place in the Cochran Chapel located on the Phillips Academy campus, 180 Main Street in Andover. Handicapped accessible.

Apollo5 has been praised for its engaging and entertaining performances. With a repertoire ranging from retro jazz, pop and classical arrangements to Christmas a cappella, they are adept performers on the concert platform.

OPEN MIC RETURNS IN WINCHESTER

Open Mic returns after the summer break at Starbucks, 542 Main Street in Winchester Center. All ages, all instruments, and all types of acoustic music are welcome.

Individual or small duo/trio performances are encouraged.

Calendar TO S-3

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Through January 9 Mission of Deeds runs "Buy a Bed" campaign

Residents of Reading and neighboring towns can help the Mission of Deeds provide beds for needy families this holiday season as part of its annual "Buy a Bed" campaign.

The campaign is designed to raise funds that will be used to buy mattresses and bed frames for mothers and their children, many of whom are starting a new life after living in a shelter. You can help by putting a donation in the Mission of Deeds donation boxes at a number of business locations in Reading, Stoneham, North Reading, Woburn, Winchester, Wilmington, Wakefield and Lynnfield.

If you have a business in one of these towns and would like to help by placing a donation box on the counter, please contact Pat or Paula at 781-944-8050. Donations to the "Buy a Bed" campaign can be made from now through January 9th.

"The need for beds is growing as more families and children face difficult, sometimes desperate, circumstances," says Bruce Murison, Executive Director. "In the past year we provided about 1200 beds, but project increased growth in 2015."

According to Murison, the purchase of beds is the organization's largest expense, which he expects will continue to rise as an ever increasing number of families and individuals turn to the Mission of Deeds for help at a time in their lives when they need it most.

"Helping people in need is our one and only mission," Murison says.

"We are here to provide people with a chance at a better life, to give them hope, and to show them that someone cares about them."

The Mission of Deeds is a Reading-based volunteer organization that provides beds, cribs, furniture, linens and other essential household goods to needy individuals and families who reside in Middlesex and Essex counties.

Since its inception in 1993, the Mission of Deeds has provided assistance to more than 10,000 families who have been referred to the organization by social service agencies. Recipients of assistance include individuals and families from diverse ethnic, religious, and racial backgrounds.

In addition to providing assistance to mothers and their children, the organization also specializes in helping veterans, the elderly, especially those who have been abandoned by family members; middle-age men and women who have lost their homes and possessions; and the mentally or physically handicapped who have little or no means of support.

The Mission of Deeds relies solely on the donation of funds, furniture and other household items for distribution to those in need of assistance. Donations of furniture, linens, pots and pans, and other household items that are in usable condition can be scheduled for pick up by calling 781-944-9797 for more information.

Calendar

From S-2

Hosted by the Winchester Community Music School and singer/songwriter Mike Verge.

For more information call 781-721-2950 or visit www.winchestermusic.org.

About the Towns

by Phyllis Nissen

SEASON'S MEETINGS, HIGH STEAKS, AND A PLAN, COMING TOGETHER

Please check your local "Daily Times Chronicle" for daily updates.

PRE-HOLIDAY CHEER (WILMINGTON)

"Wilmington hosted the Northeast Comic Convention (Comic Con) and Collectibles Extravaganza at the Shriners Auditorium featuring wall-to-wall entertainment for kids and adults," notes the Wilmington "Town Crier."

"Attendees were immersed in pop culture memorabilia, video gaming, comics, toys and guest appearances from artists, authors and celebrities."

"This was the first Comic Con for the town of Wilmington. The original Comic Con was held in a San Diego hotel in 1970 with roughly 100 attendees and has grown into the largest convention in North America with an estimated attendance of 130,000."

"Unlike the San Diego Comic Con, which has exceeded capacity at its convention center, the Wilmington Comic Con fit

aptly into the 37,000 square foot main auditorium...

"Kyle Kwiatkowski and Meagan Timmins met their favorite television celebrity, Naomi Grossman, who portrays 'Pepper' on 'American Horror Story'."

"It was the ultimate experience for the Tewksbury Memorial High School juniors who belong to the school's theater company...I am the first and only cross-over character," Grossman told The Crier. In a star-studded cast including Jessica Lange, Angela Bassett, Michael Chiklis and Emma Roberts, she is the only actor to play the same role in two different seasons...."

COMING IN 2015 (BURLINGTON)

"The Planning Board unanimously approved a request for a minor engineering change to the site plan at 50 South Ave. that will see current tenant Macaroni Grill converted into a steakhouse called Stockhill Butchery & Wood Grill," notes the Burlington edition of the "Daily Times Chronicle."

"The Ignite Restaurant Group recently purchased the Macaroni Grill brand in 2013, and they felt the 50 South Ave. site, off Middlesex Turnpike, is a perfect location for Stockhill - which will be the first one to open in the country..."

"The changes include a brand change from Macaroni Grill to Stockhill...The greatest change entails a reduced seating capacity, as Macaroni Grill has 316 seats and Stockhill will have 276..."

"Stockhill is a steakhouse that will contain a butcher shop - something

Burlington has never had in a restaurant..."

"It should be noted that not all Macaroni Grills will be converted into another restaurant...it is hoped that Stockhill will open by the middle of 2015. Until then, Macaroni Grill will remain open until further notice."

VISIONS OF THE WOBBURN FUTURE

Master planning, continued from the past.

"The implementation plan would be a road map for the city's elected and appointed officials for decades to come," notes the Woburn "Daily Times Chronicle."

"The last city Master Plan came in 1985 with many city of Woburn Zoning Ordinances pointing the city (and officials) in the right direction for the future. A Vision 20-20 effort in 2004 was also in the mode of a Master Plan with goals and objectives stressed. Now, however, it's a time to take a step back and address the larger picture."

"City officials in the last several decades have oft-time talked about 're-inventing one's self' with a variety of reactions from Overlay Districts to tweaking zoning issues."

The city will also be working closely with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council - a regional Boston area council that serves 101 city and towns in Metro Boston who promote 'smart growth' and 'regional collaboration'."

"Also," says the city's Planning Director Tina P. Cassidy, "there is a lot of history to be looked at as well as to get the word out and create people's interest."

"There will also be 'workshops' involved where pub-

lic officials and the public can exchange ideas, she said... 'We want to hear about the vision people have for Woburn for the future...and much emphasis will be on open space and natural resources..."

"Visioning, open space and natural resources." Forum #2 is on Wednesday, Jan. 14 on 'Housing, economic development, land use.' Forum #3 is Wednesday, March 25 on 'Transportation, land use, hazard mitigation.' And, the last Forum #4 is on 'Vision and draft Master Plan recommendations' on Wednesday, May 27.

"Also in August, the Woburn Planning Board will hold one last public hearing on the Final Master Plan. Erin Wortman, who has acted as a temporary Woburn Redevelopment Authority head and Planning Director, is one of 23 members of the MAPC Executive Committee."

"Members of the 'Planning For Progress' Master Plan Committee include: Sheila McElhinney, Jody Ray, Carolyn Turner (Planning Board), Mike Ventresca (Planning Board), Jim Juliano (ConCom), Kathy Lucero (Historical Society), Peter Carbone (business developer), Donald Queenin (Woburn Redevelopment Authority), Kevin Feeney (Woburn Housing Authority), Shaun Briere (attorney, Mawn & Mawn)."

"About the Towns" covers recent events in the 10-town Middlesex East area. Because Middlesex East deadlines are early, please check the front sections of this paper or look on line for up-to-date information about your city or town."

We also welcome original material - please send it to Phyllis Nissen, "About the Towns," Middlesex East Supplement, 531 Main St, Reading, MA 01867 or to schooltowns@comcast.net.

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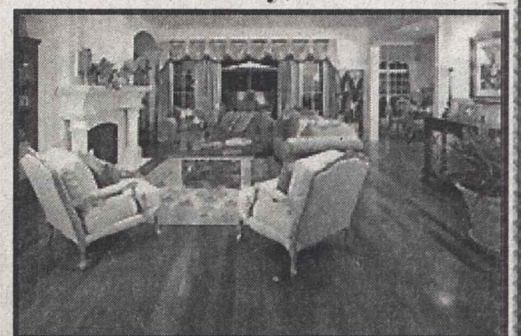
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Athletes & Activities

by Paul Feely

MIDDLESEX EAST SPORTS WEEKLY TRIVIA:

By PAUL FEELY

•Middlesex East Sports Weekly Trivia: What was the first college bowl game ever played?

Answer appears elsewhere in this column.

•Springfield College Football Student-Athlete Nick Campbell of Wakefield has been named to the 2014 Liberty League All-Academic Team.

Campbell is a Math and Computer Technology major at Springfield College.

Student-athletes with a full year in residence at their institution who carry a 3.2 cumulative grade point average into a season of competition qualify for the Liberty League All-Academic Team.

Founded in 1885, Springfield College is known worldwide for the guiding principles of its humanics philosophy—educating students in spirit, mind and body for leadership in service to others.

•The Framingham State University men's basketball team held off a late surge by Daniel Webster College as the Rams picked up a 52-50 victory in non-conference action at Mario Vagge Gymnasium. The Rams improve to 4-5 on the year, while the Eagles slip to 2-4.

Junior guard Tim McCarthy (Wilmington, Mass.) paced Framingham

with 18 points and four assists, while sophomore Tim Mangano (Winchester, Mass.) notched 11 points. Senior Patrick Cuff (Medway, Mass.) added 10, while sophomore Patrick Gould (Quincy, Mass.) picked up six points and added three steals.

Host Daniel Webster received 18 points and a career high 20 rebounds from Ray Farmer (Nashua, NH). Ryan Gauthier (Nashua, NH) finished with 12 points for the hosts while Demetri Conwell (St. Paul, Minn.) added 11 and eight boards. Khila Watson (Ann Arbor, Mich.) chipped in with five points.

The Rams led throughout the second half but never by more than six and were up by four, 51-47 with 15 seconds left when Farmer buried a three with nine ticks to go to cut the deficit to one. After a missed front end of a one-and-one for the Rams, the Eagles had seven seconds to get off a shot but could not find the equalizer as time expired.

•Need some help with the trivia question? It was played in 1902.

•Sophomore forward Michelle Woods (Wilmington, Mass.) has been named NECC Player of the Week for the second consecutive week.

Woods tied the Wheelock all-time record for points in a game with 47 in an 86-71 win over Fisher. The sophomore went 16-17 from the free throw

line, shot 54% from the field, made one of two three-point attempts, and added nine rebounds, four assists, two steals and a block.

The sophomore currently sits at the top of the conference standings in points per game with 22.2, and is fourth in rebounds, with 65.

Wheelock sits fourth in the conference at the break with a 4-4 record (2-1 NECC). The Wildcats return to action in 2015 when they host Simmons on January 5th at noon.

•Highlighted by four first-place finishers, the Merrimack College men's and women's track and field teams opened their season on a high note at the UMass Boston Indoor Open.

The Warriors were led by four first-place finishers in their opening meet of the season. Taylor Jean-Gillies (Woburn, Mass.) was the lone first-place finisher on the men's side, winning the men's 200m competition with a time of 22.44 seconds. His teammate, Anthony Arcari (Tewksbury, Mass.), also finished in the top-10 of that event, taking seventh place with a time of 23.08. There were 119 total competitors in the 200m race.

The women's team saw three competitors take first place in their events. First, Carly Muscaro (Ashland, Mass.) picked up just where she left off last spring, winning the 500m in 1:13.36, a full four seconds ahead of the sec-

ond-place finisher. Muscaro was one of the top freshmen in the 500m event nationally last season.

The Warriors also placed the top-two finishers in the women's high jump. Sophomore Olivia Downey (Melrose, Mass.) jumped a height of 5'-3", while freshman Suzanne Haefner (Peabody, Mass.) hit the same mark to take second place. Downey also finished 13th in the women's 200m.

Freshman Lauren MacGregor (Salem, N.H.) finished second in the women's long jump, finishing just one quarter inch out of first place (17'-0.5"). She redeemed herself in the women's triple jump, however, taking first place with a measure of 36'-9", a full eight inches better than the second-place finisher.

The Warriors also posted the fifth and sixth place finishers in the women's 400m race, with senior Christine Manfra (Stoneham, Mass.) and sophomore Kiana Weary (Brockton, Mass.) finishing back to back.

Other top finishers on the men's side included sophomore John Braga (North Reading, Mass.), who finished fifth in the high jump and junior Denzel Livingston (Billerica, Mass.), who took second placed in the long jump.

•Answer to THIS WEEK'S TRIVIA QUESTION: The 1902 Pasadena Bowl. Michigan over Stanford 49-0. (In 1917, the game's name was changed to the Rose Bowl).

•DO YOU KNOW SOMETHING WE DON'T? If you have information about a local athlete that you would like to see appear in this column, please email it to readingchronicle@comcast.net

Flanagan gets more ice time than before. She says a typical day for her is waking up at 7:30 a.m. to do schoolwork, getting on the ice from 10 a.m. until noon, followed by more schoolwork and lunch until 1:30 p.m., and then back on the ice until 3:30 p.m. After that it's more work either at her rink or home. Flanagan trains at Cyclones Arena in Hudson, NH.

She gets about four hours of ice time a day, plus another hour of off-ice training.

For motivation, Flanagan says she looks up to skaters Yuna Kim and Carolina Kostner. Kim won the gold medal in 2010 and the silver in 2014. Kostner won the bronze medal in 2014.

Should Krissy not be successful in her dream of qualifying for the Olympics (or even if she is), dropping out of BHS won't stop her from going to college. TECCA boasts of sending students to several top notch colleges including Auburn, BC, BU, Cornell, Harvard, Marquette, NYU, Northwestern, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Pepperdine, Rice, Stanford, and Syracuse.

Flanagan said she hasn't chosen a college yet, which can be understandable given where her priorities are at the moment. This year, the U.S. sent Ashley Wagner, Gracie Gold and Polina Edmunds as singles competitors to Sochi, Russia. None medaled.

Figure skating, especially the ladies' routine, is the most high-profile sport at the Winter Olympics. Just getting there is a daunting task. If Flanagan can pull that off, regardless of how she fails, it would be an incredible achievement. For her part, Flanagan believes.

"I think I will always have more I can improve on and learn every day when I get to the rink," she said about her continued training, "but I believe if I continue working hard every day I will be able to be a competitor at the Olympics one day."

Flanagan from S-1

so allowing her to leave BHS for TECCA was a no-brainer. He said that Krissy is "truly a determined and focused

young lady."

With her dad a former RPI hockey player and her sister a current BC hockey player, it's no surprise that Flanagan's

passion for skating would push her to train at the highest level.

Crowley said that Flanagan loved skating from a young age. "From a very early age," she said, "she has gone straight from school to the rink, never feeling as though she was missing out on anything social."

Flanagan herself said that leaving BHS hasn't affected her friendships. "My friends were very supportive of my decision to leave BHS and they continue to be a very strong support system."

Even the school itself didn't have a problem with Flanagan leaving for TECCA.

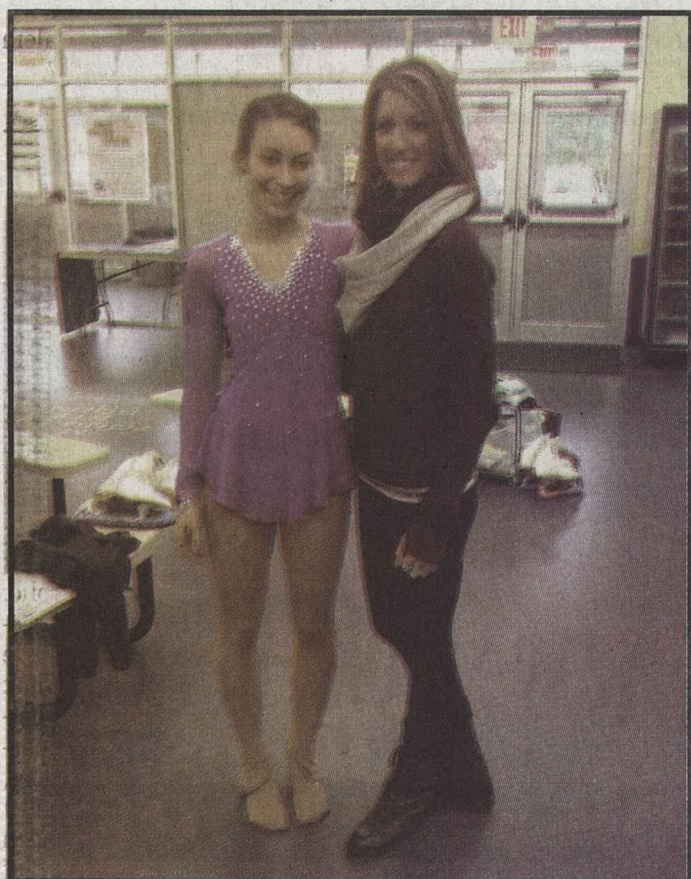
Not only has Krissy been able to improve as a skater, but her mom says her attitude has improved, as well, since leaving BHS.

"I can see how happy Krissy is since making the transition to TECCA," she noted.

Since moving, Flanagan has kept her grades up, something her mother approves.

"She works really hard at both school and her training," she said. "I'm a very proud mom."

Without the rigid schedule of a traditional high school,



KRISSY FLANAGAN is training for the Olympics as a figure skater. Her parents, including her mom Anita Crowley (right), have been very supportive.

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RECIPE

Merry Meatballs



Store-bought salsa serves as the speedy sauce for tender homemade meatballs.

1) Heat oven to 400°F. In medium bowl, mix all ingredients except salsa and green onions. Shape into thirty 1-inch balls. Place in ungreased 13x9-inch pan.

2) Bake uncovered about 15 minutes or until no longer pink in center and thermometer inserted in center reads 160°F.

3) In 2-quart saucepan, heat salsa and meatballs to boiling, stirring occasionally; reduce heat. Cover and simmer about 15 minutes or until salsa and meatballs are hot. Sprinkle with green onions. Serve hot.

Expert Tips:

* Make the meatballs up to 2 hours ahead, and keep them warm in a slow cooker on Low heat.

Nutrition Information

Serving Size: 1 Appetizer Calories40 (Calories from Fat20), Total Fat2g (Saturated Fat1g), Cholesterol15mg Sodium70mg Total Carbohydrate2g (Dietary Fiber0g), Protein3g % Daily Value*: Iron2%; Exchanges: *Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet.

Ingredients

Prep Time 40 minutes
Total Time 1 hr 10 minutes
Servings 30

- 1 lb lean (at least 80%) ground beef
- 1 medium onion, chopped (1/2 cup)
- 1 egg
- 1/3 cup Progresso™ plain bread crumbs
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 1 1/2 cups Old El Paso™ Thick 'n' Chunky salsa (from 16-oz jar)
- 2 medium green onions, thinly sliced (2 tablespoons), if desired

M.E. Santa hangs out the red kettle for the 26th holiday season



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Middlesex East Publications, in association with the Salvation Army will sponsor "M.E. Santa" this holiday season to benefit needy individuals and families in the area.

In many past years, the Salvation Army has worked quietly within the communities. But this year it is asking for assistance due to increased pressure to provide services.

Funds will be distributed locally in the M.E. communities which include: Wilmington, Tewksbury, No. Reading, Lynnfield, Reading, Stoneham, Burlington, Woburn, Wakefield and Winchester.

A list of contributors will be published in Middlesex East throughout December.

Corporations and individuals are encouraged to include their names as part of their donations as efforts are made to promote the fund.

The "M.E. Santa" effort is actually part of the Salvation Army's ongoing service program.

Middlesex East Santa donors...

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Boston Metro Hi-Railers had a very successful open house last weekend



The Boston Metro HI-railers club, after a very successful open house last Saturday, will now be turning its attention to some important changes and new challenges as a club. This event provided a great chance to display our children's layout. It had a very positive reaction by the public.

The introduction of the Lionel Chief Plus engine, means a remarkable change for young families who want to introduce young kids to model trains as well as providing the club with some new technology for kids. This train has its own controller, which will allow kids to operate the horn, activate the engine forward and backward, uncouple trains and bring the

kids to the same level of remote operation as the large layout. In fact these new models will be able to operate on the large layout also but probably the most important feature is that the price is only \$300 for an engine, less than half the cost of a full size O gauge unit. This will make the hobby much more affordable for children, adults and families

At the same time the Boston Metro HI-railers club are introducing a new program that will allow children to learn how to design and setup their own layout at home for a very small cost. This is part of the clubs commitment to making model railroading a growth hobby in the future.

This year the club will be finalizing the arch bridge at the top of the main layout. In addition Bob Boland will have his tresses bridge completed and operating. This will be a real interesting advance in the layout.

The club expects their relationship with Lionel Club of America to bring in more new members which would help the clubs financial position and allow more rapid additions to the layout.

The club is also considering the adoption of IRS 501c3, which would allow tax deductions for people and business that donate either money or items to the club. The club is and has been in need of additional revenues, as member dues barely meet the leasing

costs of the building space itself and provide very little for layout and equipment upgrades

The club hopes this is the beginning of a new era for the club.

The open house as mentioned above was very successful. Santa Claus was a big success and the club had a bigger turnout than last Christmas. Everyone should look for some significant changes in the club over time and they hope to attract new members, new families, new kids to a greatly enhanced operation...This is, of course a, long rang plan that the club hopes to achieve over the next 2 years.

Reading Food Pantry needs your help

The Reading Food Pantry could use financial donations this holiday season, as well as edible ones.

According to Jane Duggan, a member of the Reading Clergy Association and a volunteer for the food pantry, the Reading Food Pantry is running low on funds. Residents are being urged to donate so that the pantry is able to continue assisting local households in need without interruption.

"We're low on funds right now," said Duggan. "We have got this wonderful new thing going where we can purchase foods from the Greater Boston Food Bank at really good prices, and we also give out gift cards to Stop and Shop or Market Basket so people can buy things they can't get with food stamps, like toilet paper and things like that. So we've been bumping up our services, but we're running out of money."

The Reading Food Pantry currently serves about 100

households a week, including both families and single residents living around town, and Duggan said the need for their services has increased over the past few years.

The pantry doesn't have any holiday specific program, but Duggan did say she's hopeful that more people will donate given the increased awareness surrounding the holidays.

She added that even though the pantry is based out of the Old South Church, the pantry is for everyone in town, meaning anyone should feel encouraged to support the organization whether they're a member of the church or not.

"The pantry should be stocked by the whole community, it's not just Old South's job, it's everybody's," Duggan said. "It doesn't belong to the church, they just allow us to stay there."

Food donations can be dropped off at the Old South Church from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on weekdays, or at the

entrances to Market Basket and Stop and Shop. Checks can also be mailed to the Old

South Church at 6 Salem Street, Reading, MA 01867.

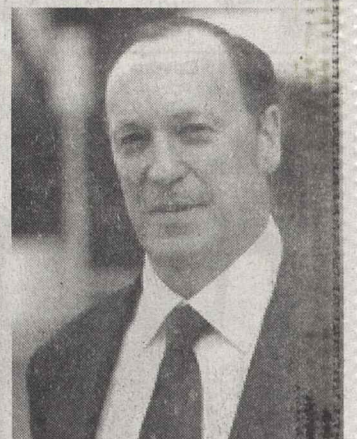
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RENTALS

Apartments & Condos 5010

STONEHAM: NO FEE 1 & 2 brm. Nr 93/95. Off Main St. Pets ok. D/D, ht/hw incl., laundry, ac, pkg, balc. From \$950. Call 617-547-0026.

Commercial 5020

Wilm. Prime Main St. Location. Former Spal 1,800 sf @ \$3,500/mo. 978-815-4116 www.northeasterndevelopment.com

WILMINGTON CHURCH STREET COMMONS \$1,000 per month 978-815-4116 www.northeasterndevelopment.com

Storage & Garages 5090

STORAGE SPACE Heated. 500 square foot in Reading. \$1.00 per square foot. Call 978-664-6344.

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Auto-X-Change

News Flash Photo's In Your Ad Put a picture of your automobile with your ad for only \$3.00 extra per day. You can Email it to: Woburnclass@rcn.com for details call the classified ad department at: 781-933-3700

Autos Wanted 6050

\$200 to \$400 CASH PAID for unwanted vehicles DAN'S TOWING and AUTO RECYCLING 978-604-0307

Up to 1,000 \$\$\$\$ Cars/trucks/vans that run WANTED. Also paying strong \$ for year 2000 & newer Hondas, Toyotas. 978-404-9211.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

EMPLOYMENT

Employment Services & Publications 8020

THE Times Chronicle accepts no responsibility for ads requiring fees for services or publications. If you have any questions please call the Classified Department at 781-933-3700.

General Help Wanted 8040

WEEK DAY JANITOR: First Cong. Church, 2 hrs. daily (flex). Mid-January thru March. **SHOVELER** needed now. More info call Marilyn 781-944-0205.

DID YOU KNOW...

Elves make toys throughout the entire year not just during Christmas. Making toys keeps the elves busy throughout the year.

THE RESIDENCE at Pearl Street

75 Pearl St., Reading, MA 01867
Assistant Living Facility
781-944-9200

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Sat., Dec. 27th & Sat., Jan. 3rd
9 a.m. - 12 noon

Looking for dedicated team associates in the following positions:

RCA's/HHA's
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Full Time, Part Time & Per Diem

Receptionist, Food Servers, Maintenance Assistant
Part Time

Activities Assistant
Traditional & Memory Care
Must be fluent in speaking, reading and writing English.

Please apply in person to:
Toby Watterson, Executive Director
or send a resume in advance to twatterson@residencepearl.com

General Help Wanted 8040

Own Your Own Truck! Best Lease Purchase Deal in the Country! *You can earn over \$150,000 per year *No credit Check *Late-model Freightliner Columbia *Low Truck Payment Call (866)907-4417 to talk to a recruiter. Apply

Now Online @ www.joincrstr.com
Drivers: Need CDL A or B, to relocate vehicles from and to various locations throughout U.S. -No forced dispatch 1-800-501-3783 or www.mamotransportation.com under Careers.

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Located at 75 Pearl St.
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Must be available to work Saturdays
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Please Call
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Activity Director
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Performs skilled manual work in the operation of heavy and specialized public works equipment for the Highway Division.

Must possess a CDL-B and a Hoisting License 1B, 2A and 4A.

Must be available for emergencies and snow removal operations.

Apply by Jan. 6, 2015

Complete position details and application available at www.burlington.catsone.com/careers and in Town Hall, Human Resources Office.
Equal Opportunity Employer

M. E. SANTA NEEDS YOUR HELP

Sharing is Caring

All proceeds assist local families.

Middlesex East Publications, in association with the Salvation Army will sponsor "M.E. Santa" this holiday season to benefit needy individuals and families in the area.

In many past years, the Salvation Army has worked quietly within the communities. But this year it is asking for assistance due to increased pressure to provide services.

Funds will be distributed locally in the M.E. communities which include: Wilmington, Tewksbury, No. Reading, Lynnfield, Reading, Stoneham, Burlington, Woburn, Wakefield and Winchester.

A list of contributors will be published in Middlesex East throughout December.

Corporations and individuals are encouraged to include their names as part of their donations as efforts are made to promote the fund.

The "M.E. Santa" effort is actually part of the Salvation Army's ongoing service program.

PLEASE HELP THE NEEDY

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN _____

Please accept my donation of

\$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other ☐

Please Mail To: "M.E. SANTA"

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PLEASE HELP!

Donations should be mailed to:
"M.E. Santa"
c/o Daily Times Chronicle
One Arrow Drive
Woburn, MA 01801



Transfers From S-8

5 Vinton Ct was sold to Bruce Macneil by Kristen Archibald & Kristen Liporto for \$410,000

TEWKSBURY

13 CRYSTAL CIR was sold to Srinivasa R & Ragitha Kathika by OSB Builders LLC for \$629,500

148 PATRICK RD #148 was sold to FNMA by Joseph W Samson & Green Tree Servicing LLC for \$279,326

14 RANDOLPH DR #14 was sold to Lisette Vega-Tello by Richard & Diane Toomey for \$187,500

WAKEFIELD

89 GREEN ST was sold to Drew B & Jannelle Preble by Anne U Prince for \$265,000

9 JACKSON LN was sold to Christopher & Jessica Adams by Linda McCaffrey & Denise Hayes for \$466,000

5 MELVIN ST #B was sold to Kenneth C & Sarah J Laxton by Timothy R & Carolyn E Ketchum for \$515,000

125 NEW SALEM ST was sold to William D Wilson by Frederick & Robert A Emilanowicz for \$365,000

8 WAKEFIELD AVE was sold to YJY Wakefield T & Roger C Yang by Wakefield Ave LLC for \$850,000

WILMINGTON

21 CRESCENT ST was sold to Garland LLC by Roland W Vidito Est & William T Vidito for \$165,000

130 FEDERAL ST was sold to Bryenne Libby & Michael Schwartz by Daniel T & Yijuan Hahn for \$352,500

5 GOWING RD was sold to Anthony J & Donna M Deluca by Paul J & Christine M Maggio for \$340,000

347 SALEM ST was sold to Brian Fallica by Anthony J & Donna M Deluca for \$420,000

39 SHAWSHEEN AVE was sold to James S & Leslie S Pierre by P&G RT & Robert G Peterson for \$589,900

WINCHESTER

4 BIGELOW AVE was sold to Ceren & Burak Begen by David R & Tara M Salvietti for \$940,000

270 MAIN ST was sold to Nishesh & Ambika Goel & Nancy Liang & Chung M Lo \$807,000
895-897 MAIN ST was sold to 895 Main Street RT & Barry Freeman by 895 Main Street Dev LLC for \$200,000

7 VALLEY RD was sold to Emr RT & Richard M Enfanto by Winchester Hospital for \$525,000
465-467 WASHINGTON ST was sold to Dynamic REI Props LLC by Susan M & James A Pasquale for \$565,000

84 WOODSIDE RD was sold to Elaine M & Terrence J Slater by Kristen & Kristen M Pappas for \$827,775

WOBURN

4 AKESON RD was sold to Senghwan & Sanghyun Lee by Carolyn R Palmer for \$800,000

39 HART ST was sold to Hugo A & Andrea R Carvajal by Cheryl A Reid & Cheryl A Foley for \$325,000

15 HERITAGE DR was sold to James H & Jane Martin by Doris M Fitzmaurice Est & ClaireTaylor for \$480,000

37-A KILBY ST #37H was sold to Janet R Process by Dana M Hollywood & Darlene Hale for \$200,000

35 PROSPECT ST #110 was sold to Meagan E Kelley by Melissa K Gregorio & Melissa Leccese for \$142,000

19 TRAVERSE ST was sold to Karen Gutierrez by Jennifer & Scott Hardin for \$315,000

LYNNFIELD

21 BANCROFT ST was sold to Christopher R & Mederith Meyer by B&J RT & Bernard P Murphy for \$460,000

70 FOREST HILL AVE was sold to Richard P & Leslie C Downey by Nancy C Loyd T & Rebeca Salisbury for \$499,900

805 MAIN ST was sold to Adam P Stanieich by Linda Maglio for \$363,500

14 W TAPLEY RD was sold to Donald E & Lyn M Stead by Willard Homes LLC for \$440,000

Middlesex East Real Estate

Sampler

From S-8

patio, which could be screened if desired, for pest-free outdoor dining. The dining area is also open to the kitchen.

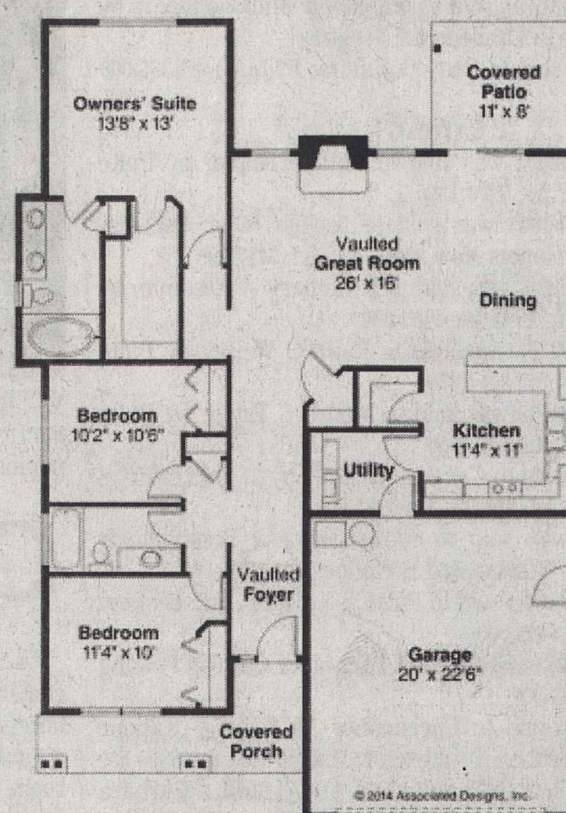
A peninsular counter marks the dining room/kitchen boundary. Its raised eating/conversa-

tion bar is handy for serving up quick meals and snacks. In addition, parents can easily supervise homework done here while they cook dinner. The walk-in pantry and pass-through utility room are both exceptionally spacious for a home this size. The kitchen-garage link assures that the process of unloading groceries

will always be easy, comfortable and safe.

Sleeping quarters and bathrooms fill the entire left side. The owners' suite boasts a deep walk-in closet plus a bathroom with a spa tub and dual vanity. The bathroom and closet create a sound buffer between the adult sleeping area and secondary bedrooms.

Floor Plan



Sales

From S-8

affordability and restrained buying. A recent decline in mortgage rates has yet to lure more buyers into the market. At the same time, fewer distressed properties and bargains, which tend to attract investors, are coming onto the market.

The Realtors estimate that 2014 sales will end up below 2013 levels. Sales have slumped much of this year after a three-year rally that followed the recession and the implosion of the housing market. Harsh winter weather crippled home buying at the start of 2014. Lower affordability, resulting from tight credit, rising home prices and essentially flat incomes, held back sales for the rest of the year.

The Realtors have estimated that 4.94 million existing homes will be sold this year, down 3 percent from 5.09 million in 2013. Analysts say sales of roughly 5.5 million existing homes are common in a healthy real estate market.

The median price rose 5 percent over the past 12 months to \$205,300. That's a positive for owners looking to sell, though it creates an additional challenge for would-be buyers.

The share of first-time buyers climbed to 31 percent last month from a recent average of

29 percent. Still, that's well below the 40 percent share that has been historically common. The modest percentage of first-time buyers is a sign that affordability remains an obstacle for many who would like to purchase but lack the savings or credit record to do so.

November sales fell in all four major geographic regions: Northeast, Midwest, South and West. Buying activity fell over the past 12 months for homes worth less than \$250,000.

A sudden blast of cold weather and snowstorms at the end of November might have cut into sales, noted Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics. This November was the coldest since 2000, contributing to the slowest annualized sales pace since May.

The supply of homes for sale also fell from October. There were 2.09 million homes listed for sale in November, down 6.7 percent from the prior month.

Some of the weakness in sales has resulted from a healthier market. Just 9 percent of sales last month were due to foreclosures and short sales, compared with 14 percent last year. The share of purchases by investors was 15 percent in November, compared with 19 percent 12 months ago. This indicates that the market continues to recover from the housing bust,

despite the absence of sales growth.

There are signs that sales may improve in 2015. Mortgage rates have fallen sharply in the past few weeks, which should make homes more affordable. The average rate for a 30-year fixed mortgage dropped last week to 3.8 percent, from 3.93 percent the previous week. That was the lowest level since May 2013.

Rates have fallen as investors have plowed their money into 10-year U.S. Treasury notes, after being spooked by plummeting oil prices and signs of slowing growth overseas that make lower risk investments more attractive.

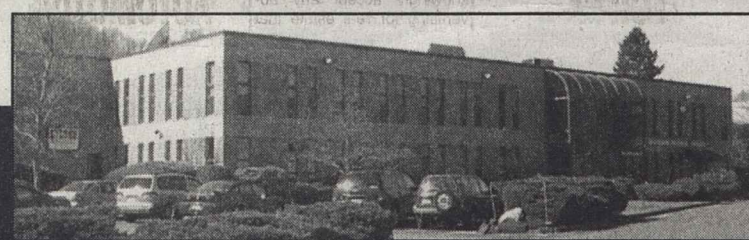
At the same time, consistent job growth has lowered the unemployment rate to 5.8 percent from 7 percent 12 months ago. Steady hiring should eventually boost pay at a pace meaningfully above inflation, which would help boost home sales.

Sales may also pick up as the housing market continues to heal from its boom-and-bust last decade. Real estate data provider Zillow said last week that the proportion of U.S. homeowners with mortgages who are "under water" — meaning they owe more than their house is worth — has fallen by almost half in the past two years.

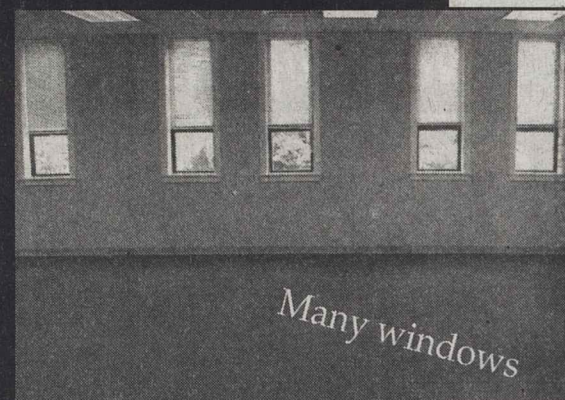
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READING



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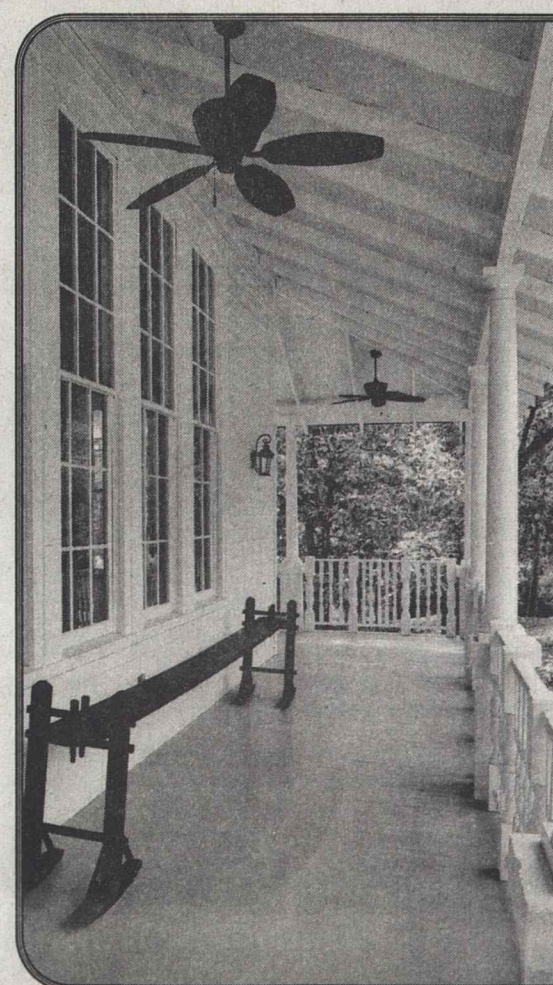
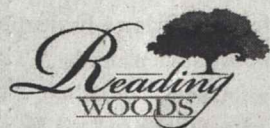
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Real Estate Transfers

BURLINGTON

15 GLENDALE RD was sold to Edward J & Jane S Breiby by AJ Sons Inc for \$865,000
22 LANTERN LN was sold to Robert F Hill by Carmelo R Ballon FT & Jacqueline M Maida for \$320,000
7 ROBERT ST was sold to Cormier Builders LLC by Priscilla J White Est & Michele L Paonessa for \$361,080
18 SKELTON RD was sold to Gillat S Sternber & Michael Greenside by Michael W Marino & Wendy M Sommers for \$370,000

NORTH READING

2 BURDITT RD was sold to Navin S & Nita N Patel by Robert S Baker & Kristin L Notarangeli for \$549,900
128 ELM ST was sold to Ryan McDonnell by Dave & Stephanie Layoie for \$355,000
339 HAVERHILL ST was sold to Marianne PKeith by Helen O Thirkell RET & Helen O Thirkell for \$395,750
32 MID IRON DR #32 was sold to Michael & Michele Sipala by Maurice F & Patricia A Dinneen for \$418,000
16 WRIGHT ST was sold to Cody G Hall by FNMA for \$255,000

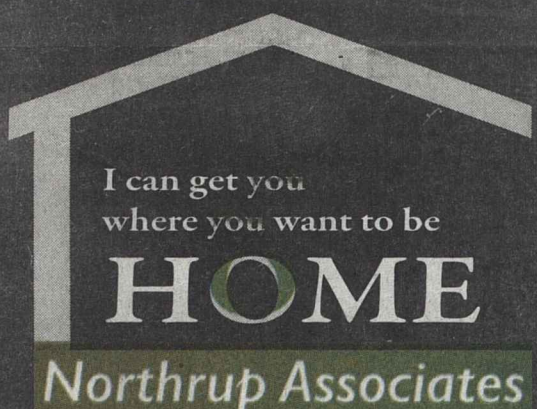
READING

23 AUGUSTUS CT #3001 was sold to Ruth A Kupfer by Pulte Homes New Eng LLC for \$479,735
23 AUGUSTUS CT #3003 was sold to Angelo B by Annarita Digirolamo by Pulte Homes New Eng LLC for \$417,995
23 AUGUSTUS CT #3004 was sold to Rosemary A Freeman by Pulte Homes New Eng LLC for \$483,390
23 AUGUSTUS CT #3006 was sold to Faith O Wolsey by Pulte Homes New Eng LLC for \$414,830
23 AUGUSTUS CT #3008 was sold to Maura C Taylor by Pulte Homes New Eng LLC for \$416,550
27 DUSTIN RD was sold to Cameron C Melo by 27 Dustin Road RT by Mary L Spinoso-Haladay for \$324,000
17 HAROLD AVE was sold to Alexander J & Stephanie B Dubanowitz by Kelly W & Donald B Holmes for \$705,000
32 INTERVALE TER was sold to Patrick & Ileana Bassermann by Mary V Wynn for \$445,000
976 MAIN ST was sold to Riverside Community Care by Pokung Lin & Lihe Su for \$403,000
158 SALEM ST was sold to Christopher M Tighe & Kaliope Grammatikakis by Stephen J Andrick & Gail E Rex for \$305,500
44 TEMPLE ST was sold to Thomas O & Ann H Mott & Barbara J Williams & Janet M Fusco for \$385,000


STONEHAM

1 ELIZABETH RD was sold to Salvatore & Nancy Vigorito by Rosemary A Freeman for \$265,000
120 FOREST ST was sold to Michael R & Colleen E Tilley by Matthew G & Lesley J Hegarty for \$410,000
159 FRANKLIN ST #E8 was sold to John F Mazzotta by Tereza Jaquez for \$182,500
99-101 PARK ST was sold to Trinity Properties LLC by 99 101 Park Street RT & George M Miller for \$382,000

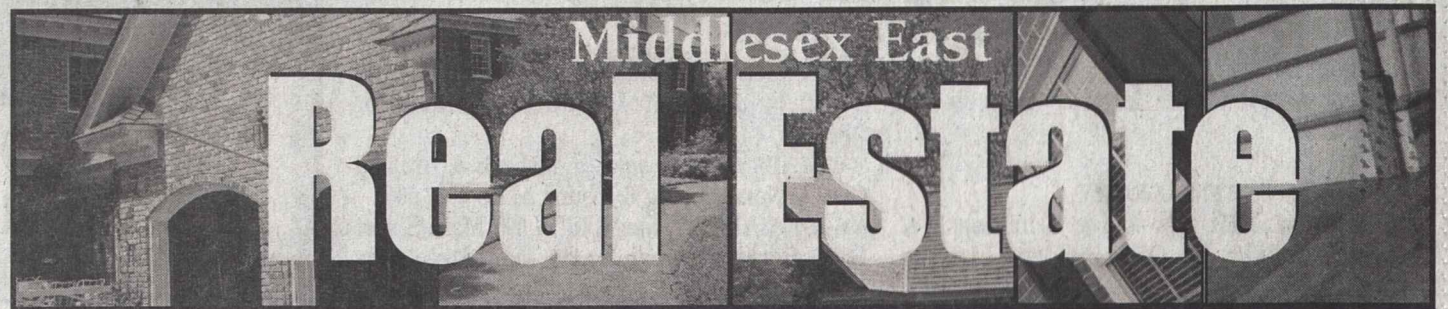
Transfers to S-7



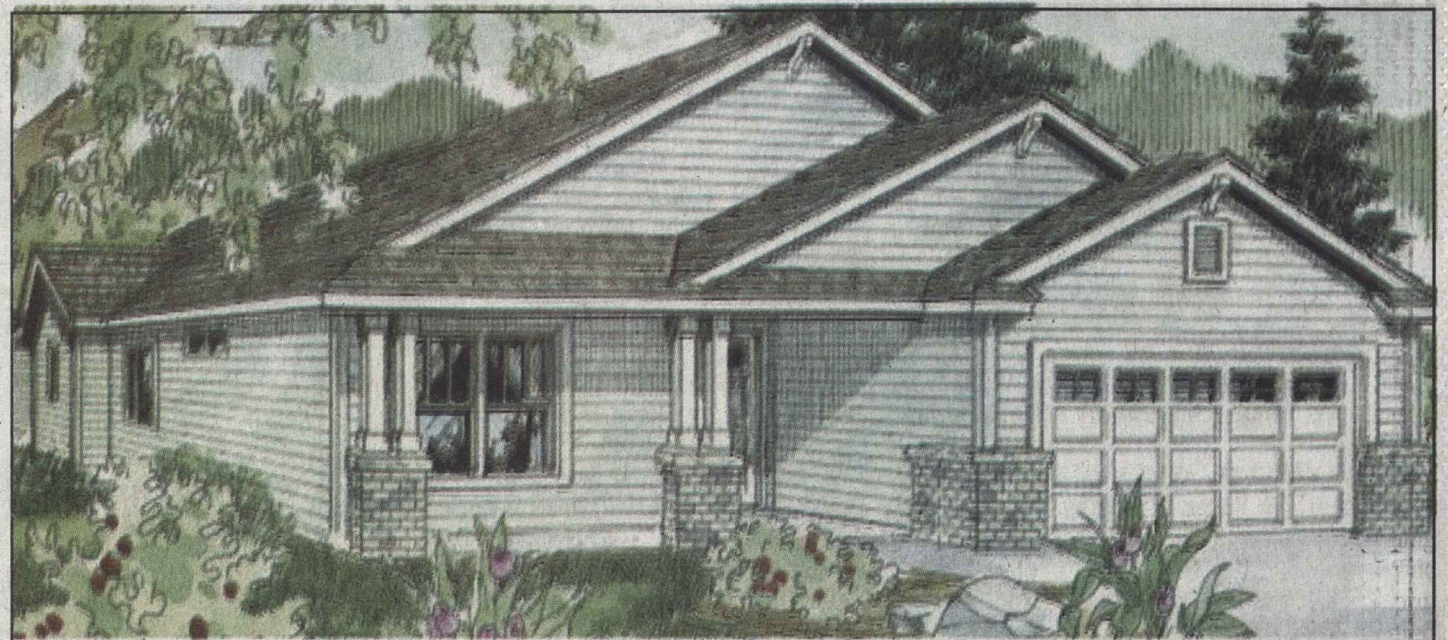
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Realtor®
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Office: 781-246-2100 Ext.24
Email: eric.doherty@northruprealtors.com



This week's Sampler: Barlow



VAULTED CEILINGS IN THE FOYER AND GREAT ROOM CREATE a sense of spaciousness in what is actually a fairly compact cottage home plan. Windows flank the gas fireplace that graces the rear of a great room with a dining area on one side. A peninsular counter/eating bar marks the boundary between the dining area and a kitchen with a roomy pantry.

Compact Barlow feels spacious

A vaulted foyer runs up the center of the Barlow, leading family and friends directly into a vaulted, richly glassed great room. This judicious use of vaulting creates a surprising sense of expansiveness in what is actually a fairly compact

cottage. The plans footprint is a narrow 43 feet wide, allowing the home to fit easily onto a small lot.

Out front, slender columns sit atop squared bases clad with brick veneer, bounding the leading edge of a wide covered

porch. Corbels accent the apexes of three front-facing gables that flow together in a neat line on the right. Each gable reaches its apex at a different level, then angles off to create separate yet parallel roof lines that extend to the left.

Windows flank the gas fireplace that graces the rear of the great room, while a dining area fills the right side. Wide sliding glass doors there provide easy access to a covered

Sampler To S-7

Sales rise 2.1% in last 12 months

Fewer Americans bought homes in November as buying slid to its slowest pace in six months.

The National Association of Realtors said Monday that sales of existing homes fell 6.1 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.93 million. That was down from a revised annual pace of 5.26 million in October. Over the past 12 months, sales have risen 2.1 percent.

The combination of higher home prices and relatively stagnant incomes has reduced

Sales to S-7

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63Spencer KnowlesRd.C21.com

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The Wilson Team at
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